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IPI gets over 1,044 H2B visa

By BEA CABRERA

hile Guam has been having a hard time acquiring H2B visas, one of the biggest companies in the CNMI, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LCC succeeded in acquiring labor certifications from the U.S. Department of Labor late last year.

CUC: Yaquinto drew over \$49K in unauthorized OT

Thailand

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. accused its former chief

financial officer, Matthew Yaquinto, J. of collecting \$49,399 unauthorized overtime pay,

causing unauthorized wire transfers of \$58,000 to Russia and Thailand, and failing to reimburse \$10,000 in moving expenses to Saipan.

CUC, through counsel

James S. Sirok, filed the counterclaim against Yaquinto in the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday.

Yaquinto

transfer

wants held liable to » Also said expay back the **CFO** authorized \$49,399 overtime paywire transfers ments, damagto Russia, es representing

> costs, \$10,000 in moving expenses, as well as court costs, expert fees, and attorney's fees.

wire

Yaquinto filed last Dec. 29 a discrimination lawsuit against

See CUC on Page 4

Saipan Tribune learned of the approved labor certifications from the website of the USDOL, which is open to the

A source said the CNMI Department of Labor has been notified and that these labor

certifications have been submitted to U.S. Citizen Immigration Services, which in turn has approved the visas.

Saipan Tribune contacted Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente yesterday but she hasn't

See IPI on Page 4



ASH WEDNESDAY

Rev. Fr. Isaac Ayuyu, right, smears ash in the form of a cross on the forehead of a Catholic devotee in yesterday's observance of Ash Wednesday at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Catholics worldwide observe Ash Wednesday as the start of the Lenten season.

Child tax credit to go up to \$2K this year

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The child tax credit will increase by \$1,000 in 2018's tax return (filed in 2019), thanks to the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act implemented by the Trump administration.

The new enhancements could greatly impact low-income families in the CNMI.

On Dec. 22, 2017, President Donald Trump signed into law the new TCJA and one of the biggest changes that was imthe child tax refundable that an

eligible child can receive.

Many taxpayers in the CNMI with U.S citizen children, when filing their taxes, file their children as dependents. If a child is below the age of 17 and the taxpayer earns an income of

CW family of 4 fears April renewal season James, a CW-1 holder who

By ERWIN ENCINARES erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A family of four who relies solely on the father who has a CNMI-Only Transitional Worker permit fears for the **See CHILD on Page 4** goes up for renewal this April. born here and are U.S. citizens.

has been on island for over 24 years, is husband to Anne, who has also been on Saipan for over 24 years but is now a CW-2 permit holder. Their children, 15-year-old Jess and

Despite a proposed bill to extend the CW program until 2029, James told Saipan Tribune that he remains anxious about the program's undecided fate.

"If the CW extension does plemented was the increase in at least \$3,000, the credit is outcome when his CW permit 12-year-old Carl, were both not [happen], it would be diffi-

See CW on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

This Friday, Hyatt Regency Saipan will mark its fourth year of celebrating the Lunar New Year.

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LOCAL

The VFW Post 3457 donates to the Commonwealth Health **Center Volunteers** Association.

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LOCAL

The U.S. Coast Guard completes pollution response efforts in American Samoa.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE **QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED** ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

2 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

Military, local officials meet for Cope North kickoff

Military and government officials met to discuss final preparations for the annual multinational disaster preparedness and response exercise, Cope North 2018, or CN18.

Representatives of the U.S. Air Force, Royal Australian Air Force, and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force flew to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to meet with the Commonwealth Ports Authority and municipal officials to answer any final

questions before training began yesterday, Feb. 14.

Randel Sablan, the CNMI Joint Region Marianas Coordination Office director, accompanied the visiting military officials to assist with the discussions.

"These meetings occur every year prior to the start of the exercise to give our local officials the opportunity to speak with the key personnel who will direct the activities," said

Sablan. "It's important our local officials know exactly what will happen when training occurs in the CNMI."

Cope North is a multilateral U.S. Pacific Air Forces-sponsored field training exercise conducted annually at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, focusing on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief training objectives, aircrew tactics and force employment in an effort to enhance interoperabil- and Japanese forces. CN18

ity among U.S., Australian, commenced yesterday and

will continue through Friday, March 2. (PR)

Power outage on Feb. 17

There will be a scheduled power crete poles along Chalan Pale interruption on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018, from 7am to 12pm.

The outage is intended to de-energize the primary lines to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to safely replace three 55-foot concrete poles with three 45-foot conArnold Road in San Roque.

The pole replacement task is part of a working requirement that involves the replacement of a certain quantity of 55-foot concrete poles that were temporarily used as replacement to 45-foot wooden poles damaged during Typhoon Soudelor.

The pole replacement projects that have been performed and will continue to take place until June 2018 is part of an ongoing Hazard Mitigation Project aimed at strengthening the power distribution system with the replacement of 787 wooden poles with concrete poles. At the moment, 338 wooden poles have been replaced.

Water services for the San Roque, Tanapag, and As Matuis areas will be interrupted tion/). (CUC)

during the power interruption; however, all services should be restored after power is re-energized.

Areas that will be affected by the power interruption include San Roque and As Matuis. The MQ-1, MQ-5, MQ-8, MQ-9, MQ-10, MQ-13, MQ-14, MQ-15, and MQ-16 water wells will be affected. The SR-I and SR-2 wastewater lift stations will also be affected.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https:// www.facebook.com/Commonwealth UtilitiesCorpora-

CCDF discusses the use of infant and toddler rating scale among daycares

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Child Care and Development Fund has completed its initial infant and toddler environment rating scale outreach.

CCDF administrator Maribel Loste noted that close to 50 childcare providers participated in the overview training.

She states that the Infant/ Toddler Environment Rating Scale, or ITERS-3, is a program assessment tool that looks into environmental provisions and teacher-child interactions that affect infants and toddlers.

With the second year of their Childcare Quality Rating and Improvement System pilot program in full swing, Loste said the rating scale is one of many key components to the entire rating system.

"The scale is divided into six subscales that includes space and furnishings, personal care routines, language and books, activities, interaction and program structure. The ITERS-3 scale is one of the program assessment tools used in our second year of the pilot Quality Rating and Improvement System or QRIS activities being implemented by the DCCA-CCDF Program this fiscal year," she said.

Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter shared that the other program assessment tools included in the pilot ORIS are the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale, the School Age En-

vironment Rating Scale, and the Program Administration Scale or PAS.

"We began this year with a steady stream of outreach and training to our current providers and we welcome individuals who would like to learn more about the standards of childcare in the Commonwealth. I thank our program administrator and the CCDF team for reaching out to our community and training our caregivers to ensure that health and safety standards are met," Hunter said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reiterated that improving childcare and increasing accessibility is one of many key components in assisting families while pursuing education or job training.

'We know that reliable and affordable childcare is needed in our community and these assessment tools are part of bringing everyone up to standard. There is a lot of progressive movement within the department and we all look forward to the implementation of this rating system to keep our children and community safe. I encourage our childcare providers to continue their participation in these trainings and ask our community to seek guidance on whether they can avail of these childcare trainings or services," Torres said.

For more information on the Child Care Development Fund, log on to www.cnmicclp.org. (PR)



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Lunar New Year Party seeks more sponsors

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The Lunar New Year Party committee is still on the lookout for more sponsors for the first Lunar New Year Party that will be held on Saipan this weekend.

The party had an estimated budget of \$115,000 for the entire festival and the committee is seeking sponsors to fill the \$45,000 left needed to bring in international acrobats.

The \$45,000 is for the airfare of the Shanghai Sinma Acrobatic Troupe, a group of 27 gymnasts who have performed internationally.

According to the Lunar New Year Party committee vice chair Gordon Marciano, the event was made possible through the support of the community and their monetary and in-kind donations.

"The \$45,000 left will only fund the acrobats and the stage. Everything else has already been contributed," he said.

The party will not only celebrate the traditional Lunar New Year, but also to entice the community to be educated about the Chamorro and Carolinian Lunar New Year and how it was used hundreds of years ago.

"The celebration will include everyone, not just the Asian community but also locals because every culture has had a Lunar New Year," said Marciano.

At the final media conference before the event, the Lunar New Year Festival committee finalized most of the details like the lights, stage, sound system, and activities. According to committee chair Charles Cepeda, everything is set for Friday.

"We are just placing the final touches," he added.

The community should expect amazing live performances from local artists throughout the night leading into the event's featured performance, the Shanghai Sinma Acrobatic Troupe.

The opening ceremony will begin at 5:15pm at the Garapan Fishing Base. The highlight of the event's first day is the distribution of 200 red envelopes to 200 children.

The second day will highlight the first dog parade ever to be held on Saipan. The parade is symbolic for the Year of the Dog.

According to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, the event is intended to rekindle the islands' ancient ties to the moon and the night skies.

Apatang said the ancient Chamorros and Carolin-

ing tourists a shot at the experience. That explains why the event would also feature celestial navigation

































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By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

REPORTER

Twenty-two persons from six countries took their oath as new U.S. citizens during a Valentine's Day naturalization ceremony at the U.S District Court for the NMI yesterday morning.

Fifteen of the new citizens hail from the Philippines; the rest are from South Korea, Sri Lanka, Japan, Syria, Thailand, and the People's Republic of China.

Milagros P. Pellegrino, 59,

widow of the late businessman Anthony Pellegrino and who acquired a green card in 2012, said she understands that being a citizen comes with a re-

sponsibility and an obligation. Pellegrino, who is currently the chief executive of-

Thailand.

ficer/president of Saipan Ice and Water Co., said her new citizenship status will help her run the business.

Jun Kitaoka, 51, who is a native of Tokyo, Japan, first came to Saipan he was just 30 years old. He obtained a green

fer \$58,000 of these funds to bank accounts in Moscow, Russia; Tbilisi, Georgia (former USSR); and Chonburi,

He said a total of 11 wire transfers to these destinations were processed.

Sirok said Yaquinto never reimbursed or paid CUC for the costs of these wire transfers.

Sirok said that on April 21, 2015, Yaquinto requested payment from CUC of \$10,000 as moving expenses to Saipan un-

der his employment contract. The lawyer said CUC paid the amount, but Yaquinto only provided a receipt of one airline ticket from Thailand to Saipan in the amount

of \$1,262. in non-agricultural work that

specific project. IPI currently is waiting for the arrival of the over 1,044 H2B workers on Saipan in the coming weeks. They are made up of 83 electrical technicians, 102 steel workers, 12 riveters, 28 construction laborer, 155 welders, 12 tower crane operators, 156 painters, 413 masons, 83

tion, you have an enhanced child credit," he said.

Requirements to avail of the child tax credit have also got-

"It's the same (17 and below) but your child needs to have a Social Security num-

All the requirements remain taxpayers were able to claim dependents with tax identification numbers as a sort of substitute for a SSN, but tax identification numbers will no

"The only way a child could have a Social Security number is if they were born in the

card in 2004 and now runs a consulting business on the island. He said it feels great to finally become a U.S. citizen.

For Pebbles Basilgo, 26, it means she can now vote here and travel with virtually no restrictions. She first came to the island in 2007 and has had a green card for three years.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona presided over the ceremony.

James S. Sirok, who served as the guest speaker, talked about his immigrant grandparents and how he was raised in a community of immigrants.

Aside from Mrs. Pellegrino, Kitaoka, and Basilgo, the other new citizens are Corazon P. Ada, Olympio M. Alberio, Gerald C. Aniciete, Marites A. Aurelio, Sharmaine Mae A. Aurelio, Areerat T. Camacho, Jeannette L. Camacho, Delia N. Castro, Mario K. Espeleta, June Bianca L. Frink, Hannah R. Jardinez, Aldrin T. Jovelo, Jung Ja Seo Jun, Garabed O. Mirzoian, Juliana D. Nekaifes, Xiajun Ning, Bok Sun Park, Leonardo N. Primo, and Priyantha S. Wijayagunaratne.

CUC

From Page 1

CUC and five unnamed codefendants over his termination as chief financial officer in May 2016 allegedly without cause and without the authority to do so.

David Banes, Attorney counsel for Yaquinto, stated, among other things, in the complaint that Yaquinto was terminated without review or explanation because he is Caucasian and not of NMI descent, and was replaced by a person with Northern Marianas descent who lacks the required qualifications to fill his position.

responded as of press time.

Saipan Tribune learned

that the law firm responsible

for the H2B petitions is the

Hasselback Law Office LLC.

Saipan Tribune also contacted

Hasselback but he hasn't re-

The arrival of these H2B

visa holders is a big devel-

opment in the current labor

sponded as of press time.

Sirok said that between July 22, 2015, and Nov. 14, 2015, Yaquinto calculated his time on his bi-weekly time sheets to include overtime that was not authorized by the acting CUC executive director or the CUC board of directors.

this knowing that he was not eligible for overtime pay as an "exempt" employee, and that such calculations were incorrect and did not represent the actual amount of overtime hours he worked.

The lawyer said the total number of unauthorized overtime hours Yaquinto included on his timesheets for payment to himself amounted to 386.5

situation of IPI as the com-

pany expressly said in the

past that it still intends to

open its hotel and casino in

This development is also

believed to be monumental

as this is the first time in

CNMI history that H2B vi-

sas of this scale was found

to be in order and approved

by U.S. government agen-

cies and a good precedence

to CNMI employers and

corporations that plan to go

August 2018.

In CUC's counterclaim, hours, for a total overtime pay of \$49,399 for a period of a little less than four months. the staff of the payroll section

Sirok said Yaquinto did

regular salary.

The lawyer said Yaquinto also instructed the payroll and the accounting sections, through the chief of accounting and others, to wire trans-

Sirok said as supervisor for

and for the chief of account-

ing, Yaquinto instructed the

individuals there to pay him

the overtime in addition to his

Sirok said Yaquinto further

instructed payroll and ac-

counting, through the chief

of accounting and others, to

make salary advances to him

for July to September 2015 in

the total amount of \$22,900.

the same route.

According to a CNMI lawyer who doesn't want to be named, applications for H2B visas in Guam and the CNMI were stopped due to an ongoing legal case where 99 percent of H2B applications in Guam were disapproved. This discouraged companies and immigration law firms in Guam and the CNMI to proceed again.

An H2B visa is a temporary work visa for foreign workers is seasonal and intended for a

electricians, and an undisclosed number of plumbers.

CW

From Page 1

cult for us as a family because we have kids," he said, adding that he and Anne have yet to plan any contingencies in the event the CW program extension does not push through.

U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services last November announced the caps for fiscal years 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 (at 12,998, 9,998, 4,999, and 2,999 respectively). Without legislative intervention, the CW program is slated to expire on Dec. 31, 2019.

"We haven't thought of anything for now because, by faith, we need the CW program extension," James said, adding that his and his wife's finances are also a factor.

James started out on Saipan as a farmer for three years before being employed as an airconditioning technician. He has been one since then.

According to Anne, Carl has a hearing impairment, making it extremely difficult to relocate to the Philippines since special education there is steep.

Special education in the Philippines] is nothing like that here on Saipan, where students with disabilities are prioritized in the public education system," she said.

Anne is currently a CW-2 permit holder. If James' CW-1 permit were denied, Anne would have to leave the CNMI as well.

Both Anne and James noted that they have been on island since before the CW program and have benefited from other employment permits such as

the umbrella permit and the labor and immigration entry permit of the early 2000s.

Their daughter Jess' concerns revolve around her future academics and how to finance them. According to the 15-year-old, she does not feel comfortable moving to a new environment with a different culture and language, which means she may be forced to stay behind if her parents are forced to leave.

"I would be devastated. It would affect my studies since my parents aren't here, especially since...it will [affect my schooling and living expenses]," said Jess. "My parents provide for mostly everything, so if I am left to stay here and they both leave, who would they leave me with?" she said, adding that it would also be a burden to those looking after her.

All three remain hopeful for the passage of the CW program extension. U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) introduced last January her S. 2125 in the U.S. Senate, while Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) introduced H.R. 4869, an exact copy, in the U.S. House.

The U.S. Senate legisla tive hearing for S. 2325 was held on Feb. 6, 2018, with Sablan, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), CNMI Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, and members of the Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp. attending the hearing.

The U.S. House legislative hearing for H.R. 4869 would be held this Feb. 28, 2018, according to Sablan.

CHILD

IPI

From Page 1

From Page 1

refundable.

For years, under the pre-TCJA law, only \$1,000 was refundable per qualifying child; since the implementation of the TCJA 2017, the child tax credit under 2018 tax reform is now worth up to \$2,000 per qualifying child.

A parent who doesn't want to be named and has two children, 12 and 15, said the over \$1,400 child tax credit that they receive each year is for her children's needs, especially for school supplies.

"The child tax really helps us. I work two jobs just for

rent and basic necessities. With the increase, it will help not only to buy the supplies that my kids need for school, but also for what they want, and even to save for their education," the parent said.

The parent said the enhancement made to the TCJA is a blessing.

"I can work three jobs but it is not enough to put the two of them through college but that's not their fault. This (child tax enhancement) gives them a chance to do better for themselves," the parent said.

During a presentation by Ernst & Young accountant Shamika Rawatte at last Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan weekly meeting, he said the

TCJA enhances the child tax credit but also prevents undocumented aliens from availing of the refund.

The enhancements made to the child tax credit would greatly impact the island because families are usually larger in the CNMI compared to the United States.

"There are a lot of people here who have big families, so if you have a lot of kids, it's beneficial for you," said Rawatte.

According to Rawatte, the reason the enhancements to the child tax credit were made was because of the removal of personal exemptions.

"There are no more personal exemptions. ... Now, instead of the personal exemp-

ten stricter.

ber, and must be a U.S citizen or resident," he said.

the same but for the past years, longer be valid under the newly implemented TCJA.

United States," he said.

Taitano was arrested on

April 28, 2013, for allegedly

sexually assaulting a man. The

OAG filed the case on May

In October 2014, the Supe-

rior Court excluded the testi-

mony of a mother and her son,

whom Taitano allegedly tried

The trial court also grant-

ed Taitano's motion to ex-

clude the testimony of the

Last December, the CNMI

Supreme Court vacated the

Superior Court's exclusion

ruling and remanded the case

to sexually assault.

alleged victim.

to the trial court.

10, 2013.

OPD wants testimony of alleged sex assault victim excluded anew

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Citing prosecutorial misconduct, the Office of the Public Defender moved again Tuesday to exclude the testimony of the alleged victim in a 2013 sexual assault case filed against former Rota liaison employee Allan Apatang Taitano.

Assistant public defender Heather M. Zona, counsel for Taitano, also asked the Superior Court to dismiss the case due to alleged violation of Taitano's right to speedy trial.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set a hearing on Taitano's motion on April 11, 2018.

Zona said the Office of the

Attorney General manipulated the evidence in this case by telling the alleged victim and only eyewitness not to talk to the defense lawyer.

Zona said suppression of evidence favorable to the defendant or that is material to guilt or punishment denies due process, regardless of whether bad faith was involved.

"Here, there is no question as to the government's bad faith," she said.

Zona said the case should be dismissed because Taitano's constitutional right to a speedy trial has been violated.

She asserted that dismissal is appropriate because the government is responsible for the substantial and unwarranted delay.

Santos to seek Senate re-election

election for the same seat, with or without the endorsement of the CNMI Republic Party.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) told Saipan Tribune over the weekend that she submitted her letter of intent to run for a Senate seat representing Rota and that she intends to run for re-election with or without the party's endorsement.

In a letter addressed to CNMI Republican Party president Laura Manglona last Nov. 21, Santos said that as a member of the Rota Republican Party and as chairperson

A Rota senator is seeking re- for the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, more needs to be done.

"...I am aware of the many healthcare challenges in the Commonwealth with regard to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., including Tinian and Rota health centers," she wrote. "Much work needs to be done to assist the health centers so that the people of Rota and Tinian are accorded the best medical services and I am highly committed to continue seeing that the work we put forth will truly benefit our people."

As of publication, Santos said the party has yet

to respond to her letter. However, Santos said that regardless of the party's endorsement, she would press ahead for her re-election.

Last Feb. 2, 2018, Sen. Steve Mesngon (R-Rota) announced his intention to run for the mayoralty seat on Rota. Like Santos, the party did not respond and, according to Mesngon, the party had opted to endorse incumbent Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig for this year's elections.

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog last Nov. 8, 2017, announced his intention to seek a Senate seat representing Rota and has received the endorsement of the party. (Erwin Encinares)

OAG bid to clarify terms denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Office of the Attorney General's motion for clarification on the terms "vehicle owned" or "leased" was denied Tuesday, as the misuse of a government vehicle case against former Labor secretary Edith Eleanor DeLeon Guerrero moved forward.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho said the motion for clarification of law is denied since the OAG provided no legal basis for its motion.

"Without any analysis, it is unclear how this motion, which could be one of any number of improper requests, is a proper motion for the court to rule on," Camacho said.

Accordingly, the judge said, the court need not reach the issue whether the government has standing to bring this motion, nor whether the court will consider the issue of the interpretation of the meaning of "government vehicle."

Camacho admonished assistant attorney general J. Robert Glass Jr. and reminded him to be frank with the court, pursuant to ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Camacho noted that the prosecutor misrepresented the status in the Supreme Court of the traffic case against former education commissioner Rita Sablan.

At the Jan. 31, 2017, hearing, Glass repeatedly emphasized that the government's case against Sablan was still awaiting rehearing at the CNMI Supreme Court, specifically on the definition of "government vehicle."

Camacho pointed out that the CNMI Supreme Court had already issued an order regarding the motion for reconsideration in Sablan's case.

The judge said Glass repeatedly stated that the CNMI Supreme Court was still considering the government's mo-

tion for rehearing and that the high court would be deciding the exact issue of what constitutes a "government vehicle."

Camacho said this representation is incorrect, since the high court had issued an order regarding the motion for reconsideration 16 days earlier, and the Supreme Court did not address the definition of "government vehicle."

In opposing the OAG's motion for clarification, DeLeon Guerrero, through assistant public defender Heather Zona, asserted that the court should reject the motion since it fails to provide a legal basis.

DeLeon Guerrero's counsel also argued that the court should also deny OAG's motion as the government lacks standing, as any interpretation of the statute in question will not affect the proceedings in the traffic case filed against her.

Last Oct. 1, 2016, DeLeon Guerrero was cited for violating the restriction on the use of government vehicles such as driving a government vehicle that does not bear a government license plate, driving an unmarked government vehicle, and operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows.

DeLeon Guerrero pleaded not guilty. She said it's a rental car and obviously not government property.

Each of three charges is punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or three days of imprisonment. According to court documents, police officer Jesus Santos issued the traffic citation against DeLeon Guerrero on Oct. 16, 2016. DeLeon Guerrero was the driver of a red five-door Toyota car with license plate ACU-788. The car is registered to Marfega Trading Co. Inc.

The bench trial of DeLeon Guerrero was supposed to start last June 7, but Camacho vacated it because of the OAG's motion for clarification.



Lunar New Year at the Hyatt

Regency Saipan mark its fourth year in

his Friday, Hyatt celebrating what is consid- the Dog this year. ered China's most important festival, the Lunar New Year, which welcomes the Year of

Kili Café & Terrace will be open from 6pm to 9pm on Feb. 15-17, Thursday to Sat-

urday, to highlight tasty Chinese dishes that will be set in buffet style and will not only sate your appetite but also





Crispy fried crab with bread crumbs and Garlic.

set you up for a whole year of prosperity and good luck.

The feast will be based on Changsa dishes, known for their sweet and spicy flavors, fresh aroma, and delightful colors.

Hyatt's offerings will be carefully prepared by chef Hugo Lai, a visiting chef from Grand Hyatt Changsa, China. "I am very glad to have this opportunity to be here on Saipan and get to know Saipan and the people here. It is my first time on island and I am loving the weather and the people.

"My passion for cooking began as a child when I would help my mother in the kitchen. I eventually went to Guanzhou to learn [more

about cooking]," he said. "After many years of study and of effort, I became a Hyatt qualified chef. I am very happy that I can be here for Chinese New Year and share

my food with Saipan." Hyatt executive chef Gabriele Colombo said that two to three months of preparation and planning went into organizing the menu.

"We are expecting 300 guests and it is always a challenge but we are ready as we continuously work to prepare the best Chinese dinner for three nights," he said.

Colombo said the dishes will highlight shrimps, tiger crabs, baby lobster,

See LUNAR on Next Page



The traditional flavors of Chinese New Year Only at Hyatt.

15-17 February 2018 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Welcome the Chinese New Year with a special meal at Kili Café & Terrace. Savour the zesty flavors of Changsha with culinary delights such as peking duck, Hunan hotpot, noodles, wok fried crab and more delectably prepared by guest chef Hugo Lai. In honor of Chinese New Year, the hotel will feature a Tai Chi performance at 5:30 PM in the lobby, Lion Dance performances at 11:00 AM in the hotel lobby and 6:30PM in Kili Cafe & Terrace on Friday, 16 February 2018.

Price: \$60 per person, \$40 for Club at the Hyatt members

For more information and reservation, please call 234 1234 ext. 26









From left: Kili Cafe restaurant manager Anthea Baltazar, visiting chef Hugo Lai, Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriele Colombo, and Chinese sales manager Mei Demapan.

Beef with black pepper sauce

cuisine they really want to cook," he added.

will be performed by the Chinese Association of Saipan at 11am at the Hyatt lobby, followed by Chinese martial arts and tai chi performance at 5pm to 5:30pm at the hotel lobby and another one at 6:30pm at the Kili Café & Terrace.

Hyatt assistant marketing communications manager Claudine Camacho encourages everyone to book reservations at 234-1234.

Dinner price is at \$60 per person and \$40 for Club at the Hyatt members. (Bea Cabrera)

LUNAR

From Page 6

ribs, Peking duck, and braised pork belly.

"We will also have Hunan spicy hotpot and carving. Our desserts are also a crowd drawer as we serve Sesame chocolate ball and tofu cheesecake," he added.

This will be the fourth year in a row that Hyatt will feature a visiting chef for the Lunar New Year.

"We are really excited to have chef Hugo with us for the fourth time and to bring in a chef from one of our sister properties in China," said Hyatt Food & Beverage director Ty Pauling. "They



Fried king prawns.

come here to work with our team in the kitchen as it is a great learning experience

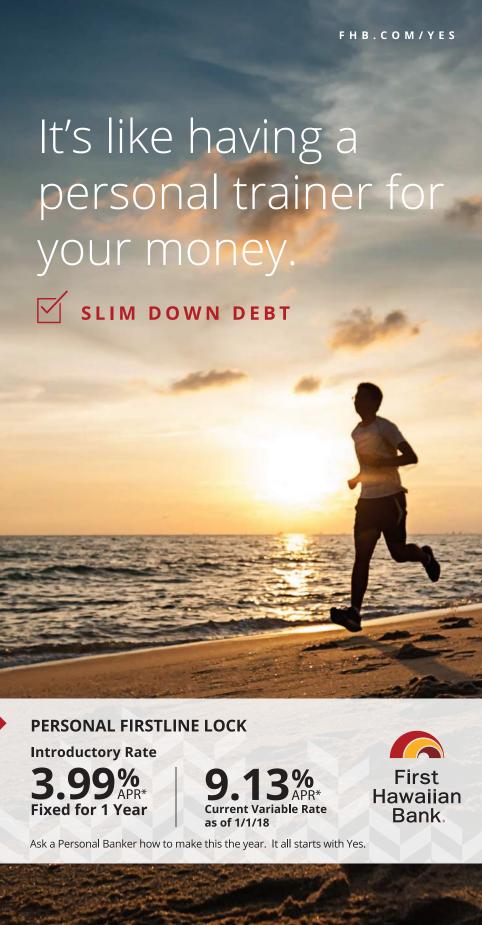
Hyatt's chefs are mostly residents who are getting a start in the culinary field. "To be able to experience this type of cuisine coming from a place that they have never been, or never been exposed to otherwise, might just entice them to go the

for our chefs." Pauling said that many of



extra step and go to Changsa or go and learn a little bit about Hunan or the kind of

A traditional lion dance



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Type II Handcrew Pack Test (This is open to all individuals)

- **February 24, 2018 Rota [Pre-Pack Test]** 3:00 pm (Station 8)
- March 3, 2018 Tinian [Pre-Pack Test] 9:00 am (Station 7)
- March 9, 2018 Saipan [Pre-Pack Test] 5:30 pm (Kilili Beach)
- March 10, 2018 Saipan [Pre-Pack Test] 5:30 am (Kilili Beach)
- April 7, 2018 Saipan [Pack Test] 5:00 am (Kilili Beach)







The Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services [DFEMS] Forestry Strike Team is looking for individuals for our Type II Handcrew. Applicants must be disciplined, reliable, physically fit, and are able to work hard under tough conditions.

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Contact Person: Firefighter Linus L. Mizutani Jr. | Email: | Ilmizutani@dfems.gov.mp | Tel.: 588-7324

TSL Foundation donates \$3K to NMC Foundation

donated \$3,000 to the Northern Marianas College Foundation to support the foundation's 15th Annual NMC Foundation Golf Tournament on March 3, 2018, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's west course.

The event will be the first major tournament of the year.

"We support the foundation's efforts in helping the college to enhance its programs and services for students who are working to improve their lives through education," said Jerry Tan, president, Tan Siu Lin Foundation. "We are proud to assist them in their efforts."

"The success of the NMC Foundation's golf tournaments is largely due to the generosity and involvement of organizations like Tan Siu Lin Foundation and TanHoldings," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "We are grateful for the company's involvement again this year."

"We are extremely thankful for Tan Siu Lin Foundation's support of this year's tournament," said Mary Tenorio, NMC Foundation president.

The golf tournament is the

The TSL Foundation recently NMC Foundation's signature event that raises funds to support NMC's academic programs and services. The 15th Annual NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament will have a showtime at 6am and a shotgun start of 7am. The tournament will follow a medal play format. First place winners in the men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Ladies Flights will each receive \$500, while \$300 and \$200 will go to the second and third place finishers, respectively.

> Hole-in-one prizes include a Toyota Tacoma Pre-Runner offered by Atkins Kroll, Honda HRV offered by Joeten Motors, \$10,000 in cash from Marianas Insurance Co., and \$5,000 in cash from Pacifica Insurance. The tournament will also feature many other items as raffle prizes like smartphones, hotel stays, meal gift certificates, and other luxury items. Registration and payment can be made at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort or the NMC Cashier's Office. For sponsorship opportunities or registration information, visit marianas. edu or call 237-6833. (NMC)

Rotary pushes forward with sidewalk project

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Saipan is in the process of having a sidewalk built that would stretch from the hospital, the Commonwealth Health Center, up until the Office on Aging, both in Garapan.

In an interview with Rotary Club president Thomas Thornburgh at the Rotary Club meeting on Tuesday, Thornburgh spoke about the status of the club's sidewalk project that was planned back in August 2017.

Thornburgh said the club is moving forward with the project with the help of Rep. Joe Itibus (R-Saipan).

"[Rep.] Joe Itibus has agreed to meet with me. We're not going to have any scope of work, but I will present [the sidewalk project idea] to him and we will see what he can do with it," he said.

According to Thornburgh, the club was not able to obtain any scope of work from

partner government agencies or from professionals in the club due to prior commitments so Thornburgh decided to move forward with the project by appealing to representatives of the Saipan and Northern Island Legislative Delegation.

"The problem is [that Rotary members were] not able to do that [draft a scope of work] because Valentino (Triple J Inc. construction operations manager and senior superintendent Mario Valentino) is working with Triple J and they have a lot of projects going on so he is kind of busy, that is why I decided to go forth with Joe Itibus ..." he said.

Thornburgh said he will continue in the efforts to make the idea a reality, no matter how long it may take.

"Even if I am not president, I will still pursue [the sidewalk project] because this is mine," he said.

Thornburgh said community members can expect more project updates soon.









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Let's Go Places 10 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

'Dreamers' don't know whom to trust on immigration

mmigrants brought into this country illegally as children by their parents may be wondering whom to trust. The political theater being played out in Washington hasn't settled the status of either the "Dreamers" or the estimated 11 million other undocumented residents living here.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi should get an Academy Award for her portrayal of someone who gives a damn about the Dreamers during last week's debate to avoid a government shutdown. The California congresswoman gave a record-breaking eight-hour speech Wednesday in a failed effort to include language protecting the Dreamers in a budget deal.

But Pelosi was one of the architects of that deal, and in fact praised its passage following her futile soliloquy. "We had a great bill; we got everything. Republicans gave away the store," she said.

Everything? The Dreamers didn't get anything. They are still facing a date with deportation unless Congress extends the life of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act.

Not to be outdone by Pelosi as a thespian, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell took to the stage to promise debate on legislation to protect the Dreamers if Democrats didn't block passage of the budget deal to prevent a shutdown. He seemed sincere, but his statement left plenty of wiggle room.

"It would be my intention to take up legislation here that would address DACA and border security," McConnell said.

Need the Kentucky senator be reminded that good intentions provide the pavement to hell? The Dreamers need more than his intent. They need him to do more than allow debate on the issue. They need McConnell and House Speaker Paul Ryan to agree to earnestly work with Democrats on comprehensive immigration reform.

That shouldn't be hard for McConnell, whose wife, Transportation Secretary Elaine Cho, emigrated to this country from Taiwan when she was 8 years old. Cho's success story should put McConnell firmly in the corner of Dreamers, who only want a chance to continue their pursuit of the American dream. Yet he has seemed ambivalent about resolving their plight.

There are about 700,000 immigrants in this country who had little choice but to enter the United States illegally with their parents. Most are law-abiding, tax-paying individuals who have become our neighbors, our coworkers, our children's classmates, fellow church-goers, and friends. Many have lived among us for years. They know no other home. There's no good reason to insist that they leave.

Millions of others who by their own volition crossed the border illegally to get into this country also deserve an opportunity to stay. That can't happen without immigration legislation that goes beyond extending DACA. Congress has come close but each time lacked the political will to ac-

See 'DREAMERS' on Next Page



The fallacy of 'crumbling' American infrastructure

t's Infrastructure Week (again), and who among us can contain his excitement?

The president, for one.

According to reports, President Trump wanted to announce the biggest investment in public works since President Eisenhower unveiled the interstate highway system. But in the wake of tax cuts, the real deficit was too big to close what Trump calls "the infrastructure deficit." So he had to settle for a plan that would spend \$200 billion in federal taxpayer money over the next decade and lay the rest of the \$1.5 trillion on state and local taxpayers.

It almost surely won't fly. Many states are as broke as the federal government—and they can't print money.

In his Big Building, Big Spending ambitions, Trump is at his most conventional. Politicians, as transportation expert Randal O'Toole puts it, have a deep-seated bias in favor of "ribbon-cutting over brooms." They just love wielding a giant pair of scissors to cut a shiny ribbon on a new project. You can put your name on a new tunnel or bridge. It's harder to take credit for fixing an existing one.

Even Trump's insistence that our infrastructure is "crumbling" is among the most enduring cliches of American politics. A search of LexisNexis shows that America's infrastructure has been crumbling since the late 1970s. And it's simply not true. The most recent data is from 2012, when President Obama was insisting that our infrastructure was crumbling. At that time, 80 percent of our highways were in acceptable shape or better. Nearly 97 percent of rural roads met that grade.

Bridge failures in Washington state in 2013 and Minnesota in 2007 were greeted as symbolic proof of systemic disrepair. But the Washington state bridge collapsed because a truck driver carrying an oversized load ignored posted warnings. It would have collapsed if it had been brand-new. And the Minnesota collapse was the result of a construction defect.

Meanwhile, the conditions of our bridges have been improving consistently for the last two decades.

Of course some American infrastructure could use updating. The problem, however, isn't under-investment. In 2014, according to the Congressional Budget Office, federal state and local governments spent \$416 billion on infrastructure.

The real problem is that we don't spend money on the right problems.

A recent expose by the New York Times showed that politi-

By JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at JonahsColumn@aol.com.



cians and the unions that own them are to blame for the Big Apple's deteriorating subway system. For years they've raided transportation funds for pet projects, like failing upstate ski resorts.

Beyond New York, a perfect storm of ribbon-cutting fetishizing, environmentalism and envy of other countries has led to high-speed-rail mania. Although zippy trains are nifty, they zoom past the fact America has the best rail system—for our needs. In Europe, trucks move goods and trains move people. In America, we do it the other way around.

Trump's proposal does include a few worthwhile ambitions, such as streamlining the approval process for public works and improving incentives to come in under budget.

After the 1994 Northridge earthquake, then-California Gov. Pete Wilson used his emergency powers to bypass the usual red tape and unionized extortion that drive up costs and string out construction time. Experts thought it would take two years to fix the Santa Monica Freeway. Wilson offered contractors huge cash bonuses to meet tight deadlines. The repairs were completed in less than three months.

The Trump plan, however, would leave it to Congress to figure out how to de-boondoggle-ize infrastructure projects, which is not a cause for optimism.

Trump sees infrastructure investment pretty much the same way Democrats do—as a jobs program. That doesn't work either (see: Japan). But if Trump had begun his presidency with building as his top priority, he would have won a lot of bipartisan support and turned the GOP into a big-government party much sooner.

Alas—or, depending on your point of view, lucky break—he spent his capital, political and fiscal, elsewhere. And now there's none left for the riot of ribbon-cutting he wanted.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Refugees don't drain America's economy. They revitalize it

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ver the past year, the number of refugees who resettled to the United States fell from about 97,000 to fewer than 34,000. The primary victims of this reduction are displaced people escaping violence and oppression, many of whom have been living in refugee camps for years.

But there is another casualty: the U.S. economy.

I am far from the first to say this.

Numerous studies have established the economic benefits of taking in refugees. Last year, 80s CEOs and business leaders warned President Trump in a letter that "overly restrictive immigration policies will likely cause billions of dollars in economic loss to our education and tourist industries and weakened foreign investment."

Since many people continue to argue that refugees are a drain on our economy, however, it's worth revisiting the wealth of research and data showing that, in fact, quite the opposite is true.

A 2017 draft report from the Department of Health and Human Services found that, over the past decade, refugees have contributed \$63 billion more in tax revenue than they cost in public benefits. On a per capita basis, refugees contributed more than U.S.-born citizens during this period. The longer refugees stay in the U.S., the more enhanced are the benefits they bring to the economy.

A key reason why refugees tend to flourish—despite being among the most vulnerable and destitute when they arrive—is the grit and determination they forged in the face of extreme adversity and persecution.

According to the New American Economy Research Fund, refugees are 50 percent more likely to become entrepreneurs than American citizens who were born in the U.S. Another study found that refugees in Columbus, Ohio, supported more than 21,000 jobs and contributed more than \$1.6 billion to the local economy.

What's more, refugees often pass along their drive and propensity for hard work to their children. The New American Economy Research Fund found that 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies were founded by refugees, immigrants or their children. In 2013 and 2015, more than half of the top 10 students at one high school in Utica, N.Y., were refugees, a local newspaper reported. The school's 2015 valedictorian, a refugee from Vietnam, said of her parents: "They put all their hopes and trusts and everything in me. So education becomes a responsibility for me."

Refugees can also help lessen the strain on America's workforce and entitlement programs as baby boomers retire.

In 2015, less than half of the U.S.-born population was of working age, or between 25 and 64. By 2050, the number of U.S.-born citizens over 65 is expected to double. By contrast, more than 75 percent of refugees currently living in the U.S. are of working age. Over the past decade, the tax contributions of these refugees exceeded their receipt of public benefits by \$194 million, or almost \$9,200 per person.

Many of these refugees hold jobs that are the hardest to fill.

More than 1 in 5 refugees work in manufacturing, and refugees are twice as likely as U.S.-born workers to hold jobs in general services, such as dry cleaning, housekeeping and machine repair.

With such a robust body of research establishing the economic benefits of taking in refugees, it's curious that people still believe they are a drain on the economy.

It's possible that a refugee does occasionally get a job that a native-born American might otherwise have occupied. But this grievance fails to account for the number of jobs that refugees create.

More likely the myth persists because many Americans have never met a refugee—have never witnessed their flight to safety or their long path to integration. A decade ago, I had no first-hand knowledge of refugees either. But as CEO of World Relief, I have observed up close the violence they are fleeing and grasped the impossibility of returning to their home countries

Americans are a compassionate people, many of them motivated by the convictions of their faith. We want to help. At the same time, many of us wonder, given the number of our citizens facing economic troubles, if we as a country can afford to continue welcoming refugees fleeing persecution abroad.

But the evidence is clear: refugees are an economic boon for any country that accepts them. We can't afford not to welcome refugees.

Tim Breene is the CEO of World Relief. He previously was founder and chief executive of Accenture Interactive.

Why do poor Americans eat so unhealthfully? Because junk food is the only indulgence they can afford

he verdict is in: Food deserts don't drive nutritional disparities in the United States the way we thought. Over the last decade, study after study has shown that differences in access to healthful food can't fully explain why wealthy Americans consume a more healthful diet than poor Americans.

If food deserts aren't to blame, then what is?

I've spent the better part of a decade working to answer this question. I interviewed 73 California families—more than 150 parents and kids—and spent more than 100 hours observing their daily dietary habits, tagging along to grocery stores and drivethrough windows. My research suggests that families' socioeconomic status affected not just their access to healthful food, but something even more fundamental: the meaning of food.

Most of the parents I interviewed—poor and affluent—wanted their kids to eat nutritious food and believed in the importance

But parents were also constantly bombarded with requests for junk food from their kids. Across households, children asked for foods high in sugar, salt and fat. They wanted Cheetos and Dr. Pepper, not broccoli and sweet potatoes. One mom echoed countless others when she told me that her kids "always want junk."

While both wealthy and poor kids asked for junk food, the parents responded differently to these pleas.

An overwhelming majority of the wealthy parents told me that they routinely said "no" to requests for junk food. In 96 percent of high-income families, at least one parent reported that they regularly decline such requests.

Parents from poor families, however, almost always said "yes" to junk food. Only 13 percent of low-income families had a parent that reported regularly declining their kids' requests.

One reason for this disparity is that kids' food requests meant drastically different things to the parents.

For parents raising their kids in poverty, having to say "no" was a part of daily life. Their financial circumstances forced them to deny their children's requests—for a new pair of Nikes, say, or a trip to Disneyland—all the time. This wasn't tough for the kids alone; it also left the poor parents feeling guilty and

Next to all the things poor parents truly couldn't afford, junk food was something they could often say "yes" to. Poor parents told me they could almost always scrounge up a dollar to buy their kids a can of soda or a bag of chips. So when poor parents could afford to oblige such requests, they did.

Honoring requests for junk food allowed poor parents to show their children that they loved them, heard them and could meet their needs. As one low-income single mother told me: "They want it, they'll get it. One day they'll know. They'll know I love them, and that's all that matters."

Junk food purchases not only brought smiles to kids' faces, but also gave parents something equally vital: a sense of worth and competence as parents in an environment where those feelings were constantly jeopardized.

By PRIYA FIELDING-SINGH

Los Angeles Times

Priya Fielding-Singh is a doctoral candidate in sociology at Stanford University who wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



To wealthy parents, kids' food requests meant something entirely different. Raising their kids in affluent environment, wealthy parents were regularly able to meet most of their children's material needs and wants. Wealthy parents could almost always say "yes," whether it was to the latest iPhone or a college

With an abundance of opportunities to honor their kids' desires, high-income parents could more readily stomach saying "no" to requests for junk food. Doing so wasn't always easy, but it also wasn't nearly as distressing for wealthy parents as for

Denying kids Skittles and Oreos wasn't just emotionally easier for wealthy parents. These parents also saw withholding junk food as an act of responsible parenting. Wealthy parents told me that saying "no" to kids' pleas for candy was a way to teach kids how to say "no" themselves. Wealthy parents denied junk food to instill healthful dietary habits, such as portion control, as well as more general values, such as willpower.

Both wealthy and poor parents used food to care for their children. But the different meanings they attached to food shaped how they pursued this goal.

Poor parents honored their kids' junk food requests to nourish them emotionally, not to harm their health. Similarly, wealthy parents who denied their kids processed foods did so to teach them healthful lifelong habits, not to deprive them.

Nutritional inequality in the U.S. has more to do with people's socioeconomic status than their geographic location. Living in poverty or affluence affects more than our access to healthful food: It shapes the very meanings we attach to food.

Tackling nutritional inequality will require more than putting supermarkets in low-income neighborhoods. These interventions won't change what food means to the poor families I met.

But lifting them out of poverty could. If low-income parents had the resources to consistently meet their kids' desires, maybe a bag of Doritos would be just a bag of Doritos, rather than a uniquely potent symbol of parental love and care.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

That's how you get things done in Congress

Piggybacking? Of course, I piggyback.

That's how you get things done in Congress.

That's how I got E-NAP, making more food assistance available for more families—by piggybacking on the 2014 Farm Bill. That's how I got the funding formula for island schools

changed, by piggybacking on the Every Student Succeeds Act. That is how the entire federal government was funded in 2014. Leadership called me and said: Congressman, would it be okay if

territories bill that extends the CW program from 2014 to 2019? Piggybacking? Anyone who understands how to be successful in Washington piggybacks all the time, whenever they can.

we piggyback the omnibus appropriation bill on to H.R. 83, the

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan

Member of Congress

'DREAMERS'

From Page 10

complish comprehensive immigration reform.

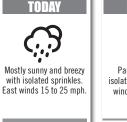
Passing the necessary legislation isn't impossible, but play acting by congressional leaders won't get it done. They need to stop talking about it and fashion a solution that keeps the dreams of people who want to be productive citizens from being held hostage to shortsighted political agendas.

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12 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN



▼78°



▲ 89° **▼**78°





▼77°

▲ 89°



▲ 88°

▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE

▲ 89° ▼ 78°



PICTURE TIME: 2:53 AM, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

After morning showers move off to the west, drier weather will return to the Marianas. Few showers are expected through early next week. Any showers will be short-lived and fast moving, so little accumulation is expected. Winds will increase tonight and Thursday before decreasing slightly by Friday. Seas of 6 to 8 feet will build to between 8 and 10 feet Thursday as northwest and trade-wind swells increase slight. Winds are expected to become hazardous to small craft Thursday and seas will near the 10 foot threshold. Surf will also increase around 1 to 2 feet, causing the risk of rip currents to become high on Thursday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESI	A	▲ ▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	66° / 49°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Showers	84° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°

Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
ADOLIND THE	CLORE	A = -
AROUND THE	GLOBE	_ ▲ ♥°F
Auckland	Sunny	79° / 63°
Beijing	Sunny	43° / 21°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	72° / 63°
Honolulu	Showers	80° / 66°
London	Mostly Sunny	48° / 32°
Los Angeles	Sunny	69° / 47°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 75°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	70° / 52°
Miami	Sunny	80° / 69°
New York	Cloudy	63° / 48°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	50° / 36°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	52° / 34°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	52° / 32°
Rome	Sunny	54° / 30°
Salem	Cloudy	76° / 61°
San Francisco	Sunny	61° / 44°
Seoul	Sunny	37° / 19°
Tokyo	Cloudy	46° / 36°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	72° / 59°



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1:40 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.17					
8:25 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.83					
2:04 PM	LOW TIDE	1.00					
7:06 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.86					

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:41 AM	6:20 PM
Friday	6:41 AM	6:21 PM
Saturday	6:40 AM	6:21 PM
Sunday	6:40 AM	6:21 PM
Monday	6:39 AM	6:21 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:04 am	5:50 pm	-
Friday	6:47 am	6:40 pm	-
Saturday	7:29 am	7:31 pm	-
Sunday	8:10 am	8:21 pm	-
Monday	8:51 am	9:12 pm	-

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È-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017

SAIPAN-	GUAM (GI	JM)	
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA	(ROP)

UA6391 1:30pm 2:05pm 1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)
UA6391 2:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)
DL297 4:20pm 7:15pm Daily

 SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

 7C3451
 3:10am
 6:10am
 1, 7

 7C3451
 4:00am
 7:05am
 4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) 2:00am 6:05am TW308 Daily 2:10am 6:00am 07626 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 0Z626 2:50am 6:40am LJ652 3:40am 7:30am 1, 4, 5, 7 7C3403 4:45am 8:30am Daily

Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 5:40am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

4:00pm 7:45pm

 SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

 JD396
 7:30am
 12:00pm
 1

 JD396
 4:50pm
 10:00pm
 4

7C3401

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)MU764 1:30am 6:35am 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) 0Z626/701 2:10am 10:55am 1 via ICN 0Z626/701 2:50am 10:55am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA6394/191 4:15am 9:00am 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM UA6394/PR111 4:15am 8:10am 7 via GUM UA6394/PR111 4:15am 9:20am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM UA6398/183 6:05pm 9:40pm 2, 5 via GUM UA6398/183 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 6:05pm 9:50pm 6:05pm 11:50pm UA6398/193 2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) HX077 1:50am 5:15am 0Z626/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN 0Z626/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 5:45am 8:40am U043 1, 3, 5, 7 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM UA6398/159 6:05pm 11:00pm

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA6393 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA6395 7:15am 8:05am Daily 1, 4, 5, 7 UA6391 12:10pm 1:00pm UA6390 2. 3. 6 via Rota 12:10pm 1:50pm UA6397 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA6399 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6

 ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

 UA6390
 1:15pm
 1:50pm
 2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN
DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN
7C3452 9:00pm 2:10am+1 4

7C3452

7C3404

 SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

 7C3402
 9:30am
 3:00pm
 Daily

 0Z625
 7:40pm
 1:00am+1
 7

 TW307
 7:45pm
 1:00am+1
 Daily

 0Z625
 8:20pm
 1:40am+1
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

 U651
 9:10pm
 2:40am+1
 3, 4, 6, 7

10:10pm 3:40am+1

Daily

9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN308647 10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395 8:25am 3:30pm 4 JD395 9:55pm 5:00am+1 7

 GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

 3U8645
 7:40pm
 3:00am+1
 1,5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN
MU763 4:25pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN 3, 6 via GUM UA182/6395 12:40am 8:05am UA190/6397 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM 0Z702/625 12:25pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN 07702/625 12:25pm 1:40am+1 PR110/UA6395 10:05pm 8:05am+1 Daily via GUM 2, 5 via ROR-GUM UA192/6395 10:30pm 8:05am+1 UA184/6395 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN 1:15pm 1:00am+1 0Z722/625 7 via ICN 0Z722/625 1:15pm 1:40am+11, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN HX076 5:15pm 12:15am+1 3, 7 U042 1:45am+16:50pm U042 9:30pm 4:25am+12, 4, 6 UA116/6395 11:55pm 8:05am+1

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAD MADIANAS AID INC

STAR WAR	RIANAS AIR, INC.
SAIPAN TO ROTA	1204 10:00AM 10:15AM Daily 1205 11:00AM 11:15AM Daily
FLIGHT # DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	1206 12:00PM 12:15PM Daily
1301 7:30AM 8:00AM Daily	1207 1:00PM 1:15PM Daily
1302 11:30AM 12:00PM Daily	1208 2:00PM 2:15PM Daily
1303 4:00PM 4:30PM Daily	1209 3:00PM 3:15PM Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN	1210 4:00PM 4:15PM Daily
FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	1211 5:00PM 5:15PM Daily
3101 8:15AM 8:45AM Daily	1212 6:00PM 6:15PM Daily
3102 1:45PM 2:15PM Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN
3103 4:45PM 5:15PM Daily	FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY
ROTA TO GUAM	2102 7:30AM 7:45AM Daily
FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	2103 8:30AM 8:45AM Daily
3401 12:15PM 12:45PM Daily	2104 9:30AM 9:45AM Daily
GUAM TO ROTA	2105 10:30AM 10:45AM Daily
	2106 11:30AM 11:45AM Daily
FLIGHT # DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	
4301 1:00PM 1:30PM Daily	2108 1:30PM 1:45PM Daily 2109 2:30PM 2:45PM Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN	2109 2:30PM 2:45PM Daily 2110 3:30PM 3:45PM Daily
FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	
1201 7:00AM 7:15AM Daily	2112 5:30PM 5:45PM Daily
1202 8:00AM 8:15AM Daily	2113 6:30PM 6:45PM Daily
1203 9:00AM 9:15AM Daily]

SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 **13**





The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3457 donated \$1,000 to the Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers Association yesterday.

Members of VFW Post 3457 presented the check to the association at the canteen of the Commonwealth Health Center on Navy Hill.

VFW quartermaster Mariano Fajardo said the relationship between VFW and CHCVA in serving the community goes back a long time.

"This is our first donation of the year but when the community come to us and ask, we work on what we can do and we reach out to them," he said.

VFW commander Brad Ruszala said that VFW was able to acquire the donation through a grant from the VFW Foundation.

"We were able to get this

as a grant from the VFW Foundation and that is the charitable arm of the VFW. In order to get this, we had to apply for them and we were able to do that because VFW Saipan is in good standing. When we got it, it is up to us to determine who we are going to distribute the funds to or which kind of charitable organization," he said.

"After working with CHC-VA and getting to know more about them and the things that they do for the hospital and the community as volunteers, we couldn't think of a better organization that we want to support for this year. So when we got the grant, we wanted to assist CHCVA's mission and selfless efforts with this presentation," he added.

CHCVA president John Oliver Gonzales said that do-

VFW donates \$1K to CHC Volunteers



VFW Saipan donates money to the CHC Volunteers Association to further their programs for the community. In the photo are the men of VFW Saipan headed by VFW quartermaster Mariano Fajardo, VFW commander Brad Ruszala, CHC hospital administrator Jesse Tudela, and the members of the CHC Volunteers Association headed by president John Oliver Gonzales.

nations like this inspire the CHCVA to do more and be more.

"I think CHC Volunteers Association exemplify what a community ought to be, one that is loving and caring for the community because we do work out of the goodness of our hearts. At the end of the day, everyone has a stake in the future of our lone public hospital," he said.

"VFW Saipan's donation today will go a long way in our efforts to find resources and to have a better community, our home. We hope that this will set the tone for this new year and we also hope that other stakeholders will follow the lead that the VFW is doing in terms of reaching out to the community," he added. (Bea Cabrera)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-18-IFB-010

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CANINE KENNEL FACILITY FOR THE DIVISION OF CUSTOMS SERVICES DANDAN, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Construction of New Canine Kennel Facility for the Division of Customs Services Dandan, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after <u>February 15, 2018</u> at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on <u>March 6, 2018</u>, 9:00 a.m. local time at the project site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on <u>March 13, 2018</u> to <u>Ms. Crystal C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division</u>, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not dear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days efore the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Ms. Crystal C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services
Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW-18-IFB-010". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time March 16, 2018. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, March 16, 2018, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664–1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than March 16, 2018 and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than March 28, 2018. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, April 2, 2018. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMII, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on March 16, 2018.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall For bids greater than Inventy-Five Photosand polaris (\$22,000.00) a not security of mitted in a five another form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CMMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations \$70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other
- bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 2) US Gov't Securities
 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive erfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the

Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN Director of Procurement & Sunniv



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS **DPW/CNMI VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE-18-RFP-004**

ARCHITECTURAL-ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE CNMI VETERANS CEMETERY EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) and CNMI Military Veterans Affairs Office are soliciting sealed Proposals for **Architectural & Engineering Design Services for the CNMI Veterans** Cemetery Expansion and Improvements Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated 2004 ed. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with §70-30.3-305 of the regulations.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Esther S. Fleming, Executive Director, at telephone numbers (670)234-5897/5898 or by facsimile to (670)

The RFP Package and Scope of Work is available on or after <u>February 15, 2018</u> at the Department of Public Works, Office of the Secretary, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at

A Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the CNMI Military Veterans Affairs Office, Conference Room on March 6, 2018. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time March

SELECTION CRITERIA: This procurement is made in accordance with §70-30.3-305 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, 2004 ed. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1. Project Team 15%
- 2. Capacity 20%
- 3. Past Performance 15%
- 4. Local Knowledge and Proximity to the Project 10%
- Project Approach 40%

The entire Proposal must not be more than Twenty-Five (25) pages in length. A firm that submits a Proposal as a prime consultant cannot submit as a subconsultant on another Proposal. However, a sub-consultant may submit as sub-consultant on proposals by

The successful Proposer shall be subject to a responsibility determination in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations,

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW/CNMI Military Veterans Affairs Office-18-RFP-004". For Proposers located within the Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, March 16, 2018. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, March 16, 2018, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than <u>March 16, 2018</u> – AND must be received no later than <u>March 28, 2018</u>. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. Fee proposals is solicited; however this information shall not be considered in the selection of the most highly qualified Firms. Fee proposals may be used in determing a fair and reasonable price

The government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

Peter P. Camacho Acting Secretary of Public Works Herman S. Sablan Director, Procurement & Supply SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 17



















































Oil spill work on grounded vessel in A. Samoa done

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa—The U.S. Coast Guard successfully completed pollution response efforts Monday for the 88-foot commercial fishing vessel Chu Zai Fa No. grounded approximately 300-yards off Leone Bay.

Crewmembers from Coast Guard Sector Honolulu Prevention along with contracted personnel conducted assessments of all eight fuel tanks aboard the vessel including the hydraulic tanks and found them empty of any diesel or oily product.

"This response has been incredibly unique and somewhat of a challenge due to the nature of the grounding, which also coincided with Tropical Storm Gita," Capt. Michael Long, federal on-scene coordinator, and commander U.S. Coast Guard Sector Honolulu. "We're relieved to know that there is no threat of pollution to the village of Leone. We appreciate the patience and support of the public and the diligence of our partners in American Samoa."

Coast Guard crewmembers met with officials from the Port of Pago Pago, American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Reserve, National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa as well as the responsible party to discuss the transition from pollution response to salvage efforts.

The owner of the Chu Zai Fa No. 1, the responsible party, will now continue work with local authorities to develop salvage plans for the grounded fishing vessel.

rently aground in the surf the bow and stern portions

The fishing vessel is cur- zone and split in half with



The 88-foot commercial fishing vessel Chui Zai Fa No. 1 grounded about 300-yards off Leone Bay, American Samoa, Feb. 12, 2018. U.S. COAST GUARD/PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS TARA MOLLE



Chief Warrant Officer Bryan Anderson from Coast Guard Sector Honolulu prevention and local contractors return to shore after conducting an assessment for any threats of pollution aboard the 88-foot commercial fishing vessel Chui Zai Fa No. 1. U.S. COAST GUARD/PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS TARA MOLLE



ARTHUR AND

From the left, coach Lorelisa Espiritu, Elijah Umali, Areeza Anda, Arnel Josh Coloma, Green Meadow School principal Milagros Songcuan, Ariel Legaspi, Christian Ted Pamintuan, and coach Virgie Ogerio.

GMS Falcons shine at NSDA contests

Four Green Meadow School Middle School Falcons made it to the top five at the regional event of the National Speech and Debate Association and six reached the finals on different categories after a week of competition held at Hopwood Middle School and Mount

Carmel School last week.

Christian Ted Pamintuan won first place in original oratory, which qualifies him to participate in the national tournament in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, together with the other champions from other schools in the CNMI. He also

placed fourth in declamation.

Ariel Legaspi placed fourth in dramatic interpretation and fifth place in duo interpretation. Areeza Gaile Anda won fifth in humorous interpretation. Sabino Cabrera finished fifth in duo interpretation.

Two GMS Falcons made it

to the final rounds of the competition: Arnel Josh Coloma in the storytelling category and Elijah Umali in the declamation category.

These students strove hard and gave their best to achieve these awards, thanks to the guidance and patient coaching of Virgie Ogerio and Lorelisa Espiritu. (PR)

sitting side by side.

Although the vessel is devoid of any potential pollution product, the site immediately around the vessel and the vessel itself are dangerous. The vessel is in a heavy surf zone and its structure is compromised. Non-response personnel should remain clear of the vessel and surrounding area.

Taiwanese-flagged vessel reportedly caught fire grounding Monday. (USCG)

Nov. 4, 2017, in international waters prompting the crew to abandon ship into a liferaft and were rescued by the crew of a Korean-flagged vessel, transferred to a sister fishing vessel and eventually disembarked in Fiji. The master of the Chu Zai Fa No. 1 and one crewmember reportedly remain missing. The Chu Zai Fa *No. 1* remained adrift until its

Another quake jolts east-southeast of Rota

Another earthquake hit near Rota on Tuesday, but there were no reports of damage to property, nor did it cause a tsunami warning.

The 5.9-magnitude earthquake happened 78.9 miles east-southeast of Rota at 11:28am Tuesday, according to the CNMI Joint Information Center.

A Rota police officer said she did not feel any jolt and that police received no reports of damage to property or injuries.

The officer said she was on

duty at the police station at the time when the earthquake was reported to have occurred.

She also did not notice the earthquake last Monday.

Last Monday at 9:14am, a 6.2 magnitude earthquake occurred 86 miles east of Rota, but there were no reports of damage to property. Some residents of Saipan felt the jolt.

The Joint Information Center said the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center did not issue tsunami warnings or advisories. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Learn about responsible off-roading with UOG

The University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability will facilitate a roundtable discussion aimed at developing guidelines for responsible off-roading.

Cars Plus, Cycles Plus, and Let's Ride Guam are leading the development of the guidelines as a joint corporate social responsibility initiative.

Reckless off-roading, wildland fires, and improper construction are poor land-use practices that accelerate land erosion. Eroded soil is washed downstream during rain events where it eventually enters the ocean, smothering and killing uog.edu. (PR)

precious coral reefs.

The University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability, Sea Grant, and Guam EP-SCoR lead the Guam Restoration of Watersheds Initiative. The initiative develops tools to reduce land erosion and improve the health of watersheds and coral reefs.

Today, Feb. 15, UOG will host the public roundtable discussion at the UOG School of Business and Public Administration building room 235 from 4pm to 6pm.

For more information, contact Tatiana Perez at tjperez@

at (671) 922-4483 or IT&E

CNMI at (670) 682-4483. (PR)

IT&E uncovers email scam

HARMON, Guam—IT&E has discovered that an unknown third party is posing as our organization and sending fraudulent offers to our customers. The fraudulent email tells customers they were randomly selected to receive a free iPhone X and that they must complete an online survey to redeem the device.

This message and survey were not sent or approved by IT&E. There is no existing offer that coincides with the content of the email.

To protect their customers, IT&E does not recommend clicking on the link, taking the survey or responding to the email.

For additional questions or information call IT&E Guam BIRTHDAY SHOUTOU

Happy 65th birthday to our father and grandfather, Isidoro Cabrera! We are so blessed to have a wonderful and hardworking dad/grandpa like you! Wishing you happiness and good health today in life and always! Love, your

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DUE TO MEDICAID'S MATCHING REQUIREMENT

'CHCC has limited access to fed funds'

By BEA CABRERA

bea cabrera@saipantribune.com

Funding has always been an issue with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. before and after it became a corporation in 2012—and it's not as if it is awash in federal funds.

To say that CHCC has had a drought in terms of help coming from the CNMI government is an understatement because the hospital continues to struggle even if federal funds are at its disposal.

Speaking in front of the Current Issues class of the Northern Marianas College last week, CHCC CEO Esther Muña said that 50 percent of the CNMI population is on Medicaid.

Medicaid is a healthcare program that assists low-income families or individuals in paying for long-term medical and healthcare costs. It is a joint program of the federal government and the state or U.S. territory like the CNMI.

"The way Medicaid works is that 50 percent is funded by the federal [government] and 50 percent by the CNMI government. If the government gives \$2 million to CHCC, then [the] federal [government] will match that and give \$2 million," she said

"The problem is, if the federal [government] has \$100 million in the bank, we have to match it. We have to have \$100 million to get \$100 million. If Medicaid is going to

pay the hospital, it has to come up with \$100 million in order to pay the other \$100 million," she added.

Since 2011 and up to now, from one legislative appropriation to another, CHCC has always been underfunded.

"What we came up with is to do the switch where we changed the Medicaid state plan to have a certified public expenditure payment. What that does is, in order for us to take or draw out \$100 million from the federal government, we would base it on CHCC expenditures," she said.

'So in order for us to get money from our cost of providing services to the 50 percent of the Medicaid population, we have to use the certified public expenditure, which basically takes our cost of providing services as a match to the federal share," she added.

No matter how CHCC is good in doing the math and turning the wheels to have a portion of the federal money, there is no denying, however, that CHCC has been losing money since 2011, Muña said.

"To understand the setup is, for example, I spend a dollar, I only get \$50 cents back. The other \$50 cents is lost and we cannot do anything about it because the only way for me to

tap the federal share is through CPE [certified public expenditure]. This has been our payment methodology [from] 2011 to 2017," she said.

"Since we are not getting sufficient funding from the government, this is only revenue that we can count on and the revenue that we needed to survive. Otherwise, we won't be able to survive if nobody pays," Muña added.

Muña said the \$100 million came from the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and this expires in 2019 and after that it goes back to the U.S. federal fund because that's how territories are set.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at FDM

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Feb. 16, from 9:30am to 4:30pm. It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. (PR)

CHamoru commission meetings

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its monthly meetings on Thursday, Feb. 22, March 8 and March 22, 2018 from 12:30pm to 3pm at the Division of Humanities conference room, first floor, Humanities and Social Sciences Building, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Guam, Mangilao.

Additionally, there will be a work session on March 15, 2018, from 12:30pm to 3:30pm at the same venue, the Humanities conference room, UOG.

For further information call Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. (PR)

Creating an alcoholfree, drug-free workplace

Two speakers will talk about how to attain an alcohol-free and drug-free workplace at the Thursday, Feb. 15, breakfast meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan's Azucena Room, from 8am to 9:30am. The speakers are Sandra F. Bordallo, MFT, LPC and Daniel A. Duenas, MSW, MA, from Westcare Pacific Islands. The presentation is open to the public. The speakers will provide an opportunity for questions. The presentation costs \$20 for

SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by email at penelope.jones@hyatt.com Denise Montenegro at denise. montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (PR)

Fishery scholarship applications due Feb. 28

The U.S. Pacific Territories Capacity-Building Scholarships pays for college expenses to complete a fishery science related undergraduate or graduate degree at universities in Guam and Hawaii. Applicants must have completed or be in the process of completing their sophomore year in college and be a U.S. citizen or national with strong ties to American Samoa, Guam or the CNMI. Contact the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council at (808) 522-5341 or atinfo.wpcouncil@noaa.gov for more information. (PR)

CJPA meetings set

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency will be holding a youth advisory and supervisory board meeting on Feb. 15, 2018, and Feb. 16, 2018, at the Pacific Islands Club. The meeting will cover CJPA grant funding and awards for various services and programs. The meetings will take place from 8am to 5pm on both days. (PR)

Kagman cluster schools' PTSA meeting set

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman cluster of schools will be having a PTSA meeting on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018, at 11am at Marine Beach. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend this meeting and are asking that people bring chairs and, if possible, a dish to contribute to the potluck lunch. Call the school at 237-3921, 664-4100, or 664-3911 if you have any questions or concerns. (PR)

OPA to hold ethics presentations

The Office of the Public Audi-

tor will be conducting ethics presentations on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

On Saipan, the presentation will be held on Feb. 20, 2018, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, starting at 9am; there will be a second session starting at 1pm.

On Rota, it will be on March 1, 2018, at the Northern Marianas College Rota instructional site. On Tinian, it will be on March 9, at the NMC Tinian instructional site. On both sites, the ethics presentation will start at 10am; there will be a second session starting at 2pm.

While on Rota and Tinian, the staff of the OPA will be notarizing and accepting filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials.

All filers are reminded to bring with them some form of photo identification, such as a driver's license or a passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services. To register, call Michelle Camacho at 322-6481. (PR)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

AGNES S.N. MAHATO FCD-DI CIVIL **PETITIONER** ACTION NO. 18-0020 CHANDRA SUMMONS FOR MANI MAHATO PUBLICATION Respondent,)

TO THE ABOVE RESPONDENT:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after the service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 503346 Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 8th day of February, 2018.

/s/ Clerk of Court



CANCELLATION OF RFP MVA-RFP-18-2009

For: Local Publication and Media Services

This is to notify bidders and prospective bidders that MVA-RFP-18-2009 has been cancelled in accordance with NMIAC 90-20-301. MVA has determined that cancellation was in the best interests of MVA because of inadequate specifications were contained in the solicitation. The RFP is cancelled and all proposals are hereby rejected.

MVA understands that firms went through great efforts in preparing a response for the above mentioned IFBs, and apologizes for any inconvenience this cancellation may have caused.

/s/ Gloria C. Cavanagh Chairperson, Board of Directors /s/ Judy C. Toress **Acting Managing Director**

TASI TOURS



REQUEST FOR BID PROPOSALS FOR

TWO (2) 25KVA GENERATORS FOR MANAGAHA ISLAND

Specific Requirements:

Two (2) diesel engines driven 25KVA AC generators, 220V, Three Phase, 4-wire output: 25KVA, 0.8PF. Sound proof type with auto start and stop terminal, anti-rust. ECO Base model with inside oil receiver.

Interested bidders should call David Igitol, at Tasi Tours at 235-9373, to obtain a bid package.

IPI employee count dips in Dec.

erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com REPORTER

From a high of 1,870 employees in July 2017, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI)

LLC reported that staffing dropped to 1,606 in December 2017.

The Hong Kong-based company building the \$507-million Imperial Pa-

NMC Nursing Club to host health fair this Saturday



A member of the Northern Marianas College Nursing Club checks the blood pressure of a health fair participant. This year's 9th annual Health Fair will take place on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, at the Multi-Purpose Center and will feature a 5K Walk.

To increase awareness about healthy lifestyle habits and practices, the Northern Marianas College Nursing Club is inviting all community members to its 9th Annual Health Fair on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, from 8am to 12pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. The health fair is supported with the assistance of the Area Health Education Center, private sponsors, and other NMC and community volunteers.

Health fair activities will run from 8am until 12pm and will also feature a fivekilometer walk from 6am to

8am. Registration for the 5K Walk will begin at 5:30am. There is no fee to participate in either the health fair or the 5K walk.

"Our goal for this health fair is to promote on-island health resources for the public and to promote a healthier lifestyle," said NMC Nursing Club president Kaiza Lucido. "This is also a wonderful opportunity for our community members because all of our screenings and services are free."

For additional information about the health fair, contact NMC Nursing Club 237-6741/6743 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

cific Resort in Garapan said the drop in employee count is partly due to U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services reducing the number of slots for foreign workers from 12,998 for fiscal year 2017 to 9,998 for fiscal year 2018—a reduction of 3,000 slots.

Bertha Deleon Guerrero. IPI Human Resource vice president, confirmed in an email to Saipan Tribune that majority of employees who

left within the period were capped out from the CW program, which is officially called the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program.

In a report written with data collected last December 2017, IPI said that of the 1,606 employees in December 2017, there were 586 U.S. citizens, 91 U.S. permanent residents, 34 Freely Associated States employees, 19 H-1B permit holders, six E3 permit holders, 77 with employment authorization documents, and 793 CW permit holders.

The report also cited that IPI wasn't in compliance with its mandate to have 65 percent of its workforce to be U.S. workers, as stated in the Casino License Agreement. U.S. citizens constitute 44 percent of the total IPI workforce.

During a four-month period from September 2017 to December 2017. December had the most number of promotions of staff at 48 promotions, while October

2017 had the most separations at 151. Separations include resigned and capped out employees. Notably, over the four-month period, November 2017 saw the largest number of new hires for the period, coming in at 35 while October 2017 had the second highest at 25.

IPI said that it conducted career talks at both the Northern Marianas College and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, where two of seven students from NMTI successfully went through a 240-hour internship program at IPI.

Attao, Long, Litulumar top LDTF writing competition



On behalf of the Lady Diann Torres Foundation, first lady Diann Torres accepts a \$1,000 donation from Bridge Capital vice president Vincent Bidez, chief operating officer Tucker Baldwin, and business development manager Joe Guerrero, making their company an official partner sponsor of the 2nd Annual Language in Literacy Young Author's Writing Competition. Also in the photo are LDTF board of directors member Shirley Sablan and outreach chair Irene Torres.

Foundation announced yesterday the winners of the 2nd Annual Language in Literacy Young Author's Writing Competition.

In the Chamorro grades 4-5 category, the first place prize went to Leilani Attao of Garapan Elementary School, with her work titled, Maolek Kon-

The Lady Diann Torres tra Båba. The second place prize went to Geremy Santos of Tinian Elementary School, with Si Sirena.

In grades 6-8, the first place prize went to Cielo Long of Tinian Junior High School, with I Duendis. In second place is D'anahlei Rodriguez of Chacha Ocean View, with I dos Asagua yan I Asuli.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In the Carolinian category, the first place winner in grades 6-8 is Jude Litulumar of Chacha Ocean View, with The Origin of the Stick Dance. Second place went to Devin Kapileo of Chacha Ocean View, with Chief Aghurubw.

One the missions of LDTF is to promote and protect the language and culture of the indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian by giving the youth an opportunity to share stories and publish books written within the vernacular.

"I am extremely grateful to all young authors who participated in our second annual writing competition," said first lady Diann Torres. "I am humbled by the support of parents, teachers and administrators of various participating schools. They have dedicated time and have worked hard to guide their children throughout their journey in this competition."

Torres also thanked the judges for taking on the tough job of choosing the winners. The judges for the competition included Crispin Ogo, Claudia Larson, Juanita Nekaifes, John Tagabuel, and Erlinda Naputi.

The theme for the competition was "Myths and Legends."

All submissions had to be written in either Chamorro or Carolinian by students in elementary grade levels 4 and 5, junior high school grades 6 through 8 and high school grades 9 through 12.

There was an increase in the number of submissions compared to the Foundation's first competition.

Top finalists and winners will be assigned a professional illustrator to help illustrate their individual short stories and make ready for book publishing—all managed and paid for by the LDTF with the support of its sponsors.

Winning books will be edited and approved by the language commission before it is published.

LDTF has now opened the Language in Literacy program for an official sponsorship opportunity. There are two sponsor levels: \$2,000 for main sponsor and \$1,000 for partner sponsor.

For information about the Language in Literacy Young Author's Writing Competition or to learn how to become an official sponsor of published books under this program, email ladydianntorres@gmail.com or call (670) 235-5383. (PR)



FOR BEAUTY'S SAKE

McDonald's Saipan donates \$1,500 to Stellar Marianas for the upcoming 2018 Miss Marianas beauty pageant.

PSS wants parents to be involved

By BEA CABRERA

bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Public School System wants the Parents Teachers Association of every school to get involved in terms of knowing how the Board of Education uses the money it gets from the Legislature.

At the last PSS board meet-

ing, board member Herman Guerrero said that involving the parents represented by the Parents Teachers Association president at every school would shorten the process of educating the Legislature on how PSS plans to use the money lawmakers allot the system.

"It seems like that it's always an educating process

every year that we go through the exercise of telling the [Legislature] how we plan to use the money. By getting the PTA involved, the Legislature will have a clearer picture on what the actual needs of the schools are," he said.

"There are certain individuals out there that don't like us and just creates problems for

us. So I believe when we make the initial budget request, let's make sure we engage the parents," he added.

Guerrero suggested that in the future, a letter of certification signed by the parents will help PSS justify the system's immediate need.

"It would be nice to see a letter of endorsement or a cer-

tification from PTA that they have at least reviewed the budget that we presented to them, where they have provided input," he said.

"This way, when the Legislature comes back to us, we can show them the letter that supported the needs of the school by the community as represented by the parents of the students," he added.

Board member Florine Hofschnieder shared Guerrero's view of involving the parents because, aside from giving the parents voices, the parents will go through what the board experiences when they present the budget to the Legislature.

Guerrero said that in budget hearings, inviting the PTA

president to join alongside management and the school principals is an ideal situation.

"We always have management and principals and it is an excellent idea to invite the PTA president of every school and be there so if they want to speak, they can to support their interests and the PSS budget," he said.

"I am tired of hearing from the Legislature that we gave you the 25 percent but that is just the minimum and that doesn't mean it ends there. They need to move away from that mentality... We need to invest in our students and we are still at the bottom of per pupil expenditures, even though we are moving up with our teachers" he added.

Women's crisis center in Fiji wins humanitarian award

The 2018 Mitchell Humanitarian Award was presented to the Fiji Women's Crisis Center in a ceremony at the Australian National University on Tuesday night.

The Mitchell Humanitarian Award is an annual award that recognizes individuals and organizations who have made an outstanding contribution to the cause of international development and who have been supported by Australian aid.

The Fiji Women's Crisis Centre was established in Suva, Fiji, in 1984. Since then, it has provided crisis counselling and legal, medical and other practical support services for women and children who are survivors of violence. Its awareness raising and advocacy is widely recognized as having been path-breaking, and it has played a pivotal role in both Fiji and the broader Pacific region, spawning similar organizations in other countries, and resulting in changes not only in laws and policies but also in attitudes. The FWCC started receiving support from the Australian aid program in 1990; that support continues to this day.

Shamima Ali is the Coordinator of the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre. Receiving the award on behalf of FWCC, she said: "This reward is a reflection of how ongoing multiyear funding over nearly



The 2018 Mitchell Humanitarian Award was presented to the Fiji Women's Crisis Center in a ceremony at the Australian National University on Tuesday night.

three decades has enabled the FWCC to consistently challenge a society where patriarchal norms, attitudes and behavior continue to violate women's human rights in every sphere of society."

"We have been able to build best practice and roll it out throughout the Pacific and support members of the Pacific Women's Network against Violence against Women."

Professor Stephen Howes, of the ANU Development Policy Centre, which administers the award, commented: "FWCC's success is an outstanding example of what can be achieved by a dedicated group able to access long-term support from the Australian aid program."

The Mitchell Humanitarian Award is named after Harold Mitchell AC, a leading Australian businessperson and international philanthropist. A distinguished selection panel choose the awardee. The panel is chaired by Stephanie Copus-Campbell, executive director with the Oil Search Foundation, and includes Jo Chandler, award-winning journalist, and Bob McMullan, former parliamentary secretary for International Development.

Others shortlisted for the award this year include: Fessehaie Abraham, a refugee from Eritrea who mobilized the Australian community to provide support to his country; Gillian Mellsop, a senior manager with the Australian aid

program who went on to lead numerous UNICEF country offices; Gabrielle Persley, an Australian bioscientist who was involved in the establishment of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, the Doyle Foundation, and many other international agricultural research initiatives; and Heni Meke, former army nurse and now the CEO of Anglicare PNG.

"The amazing stories of all the candidates for the Mitchell Humanitarian Award should educate and inspire us," Professor Howes said.

The Fiji Women's Crisis Centre was presented with the 2018 Mitchell Humanitarian Award trophy and \$10,000.

Signing ceremony today for CNMI typhoon plan

The CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency will conduct a final plan brief and signing ceremony for the 2018 CNMI Catastrophic Typhoon Plan today, Feb. 15, at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center at 9am.

This effort kicked off in February 2016, almost two years ago. In this final meeting of the Senior Leadership Steering Committee, planners will present a brief review of the plan, its organization, and highlight critical responses developed for approval.

Once the brief is complete, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Robert Fenton, FEMA Region IX administrator, will sign the plan, committing to train, exercise and execute it.

This is the first official catastrophic plan for the CNMI.

The development of the plan is now final. The comprehensive Catastrophic Typhoon Plan presents the results of research and analysis and hard work done by the core planning team over the last

two years. The final plan is a crucial component of disaster planning that addresses and provides a guide to the protocols, procedures, and division of responsibilities in emergency response.

"This plan is the result of many months of discussion dating back to late 2015 after Typhoon Soudelor devastated our islands. We will never forget the hard lessons learned from that experience, because it resulted in a call to action from every sector of our government and our community. This plan will enable us to effectively plan and respond to natural disasters within our region. I want to thank our HSEM planners and the FEMA leadership for their collective commitment to preparing our islands for the future," said Torres.

"The [plan] involves a collective effort and provides CNMI and FEMA leadership with essential methods and effective strategies by delivering a joint plan that can be continually evaluated, and improved to better prepare for and respond to disasters," said FEMA Region IX regional administrator, Robert Fenton. (PR)

Man vacillates over inviting late wife's mom to wedding

EAR ABBY: My wife passed away two years ago at age 40 after a long bout with cancer. We had three children, ages 7 to 12. I am 44 and engaged now to a wonderful woman. We are planning to have a small wedding with fewer than 50 guests.

While the kids and I are doing well, my late wife's mother, "Karen," is still grieving. She has a forceful personality and can be quite pushy. She lives nearby.

We have not finalized the arrangements or sent out invitations. Karen has been asking if she and my former father-in-law are invited, but we haven't answered her yet. She says she's hurt because she feels we don't want her there.

Is it proper etiquette to invite the parents of a deceased spouse to a remarriage? The only people she would know aside from us would be my parents, who need to bond with my fiancee's family who are coming from out of town. The kids seem to not care either way. If it were me, I'd feel awkward being there. Help!

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR LOOKING: Although your late wife is gone, her parents are still your children's grandparents and therefore should be treated as part of your family. While you might

feel awkward if you were in their position, consider how hurt they will be if they are not included on the guest list. The decision whether to attend should be theirs to make.

Welcome them and treat them with kindness. A wife can be "replaced," but a daughter cannot, which is why Karen is still grieving even though you have gone on with your life.

DEAR ABBY: I need advice on how to deal with a friend/neighbor's messy, unkempt backyard. We are getting ready to put our house on the market, and I'm concerned their yard may be a deterrent to potential buyers. Their pool looks like a swamp, and various pieces of lawn furniture are strewn about the yard. Tables are turned upside down and random items are thrown about.

They are friends of ours, but I have no clue how to broach such a sensitive topic without upsetting them. Please help.

LIVING NEXT TO A SWAMP

DEAR LIVING: Because those neighbors are friends, I assume they are aware that you are selling your home. If you live in an area that's prone to any dangerous mosquitoborne viruses, you would be doing them a favor to point out that their pool equipment needs fixing because still water

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



makes an excellent breeding place for mosquitoes.

As to the state of their yard, your real estate agent may have some suggestions about how to handle that. If you and your spouse volunteer to help your neighbors make it more attractive, they might be receptive. However, if they refuse and you live in a community with a neighborhood association that regulates how properties must look in order to preserve their value, consider bringing this to its attention.

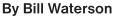
Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

22 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

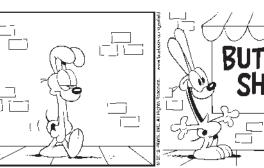
Calvin and Hobbes







Garfield®



By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy





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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King STUMPED? Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Amber Riley, 32; Matt Groening, 64; Melissa Manchester, 67; Jane Seymour, 67.

Happy Birthday: Don't get carried away or overreact to what others do or say. Remain calm and make rational decisions and the success you desire will be yours. Don't be tempted by those seeking indulgence and excess. Stay tuned in to what matters, not what others have. Make this a year of progress and humanitarian acts that make a difference. Your numbers are 5, 17, 22, 26, 30, 34, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make personal changes for the right reasons. Look at the consequences that will result if you are reluctant to follow through with your plans. Live up to your word and make a point to encour-

age others to do the same. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Too much of anything will result in a setback. Only offer what you can and only put up with what's reasonable. Good things will come your

way if you put in the effort required to accomplish what you set out to do. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Go about getting what you want by offering to do

things for others. A desire to share with others should be your motivation to make the world a better place. Your involvement in practices that bring about positive change will alter your life. OOOOO

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be tempted to implement change because someone else does. Think twice before

you follow in the footsteps of someone who is underestimating what it will take to reach his or her goal. Be smart with your finances.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Old emotions will surface. Recognize what's causing you to feel the way you do and make adjustments to your life that will ease your stress and help you head toward the people and things you enjoy most. 🛇 🗘

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A change in a contract, settlement or the way you treat a physical problem will be helpful. Don't be afraid to try something new. Stubbornness will work against you. Disillusionment regarding a relationship will leave you unsure of your future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Refuse to let anyone put demands on you. Take care of your responsibilities quickly and make plans to do something that you enjoy. Spending time with someone special is encouraged as long as you are moderate in your spending.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Focus on the information and ideas that come from an unusual source. You don't have to go overboard, but you do have to try something unique if you want to achieve peace of mind. Good results will come from mindfulness, not

anger. OOOOO SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Overreacting will hold you back. Avoid any situations that require you to be dishonest or which may lead to confusion. Own up to what you want and get on with your life. Positive change begins with truth.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't be tempted to get involved in something that is going to cost you emotionally, financially or legally. Set boundaries and only do what brings you greater security. Avoid unstable or unpredictable individuals. •••

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look for the path that first encouraged you to be a participant. Don't sit back when you can bring about positive changes. Make your life and the lives of those you love better. A healthy attitude will ensure positive results.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be tempted to give in to someone who is asking too much. Unreasonable demands will be placed on you if you aren't quick to say "no" and walk away. Refuse to get dragged into an argument that will lead to a stalemate QQQ

Birthday Baby: You are pioneering, upbeat and devoted. You are benevolent and dramatic.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	4		7	8		6		
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Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer									
1	4	3	9	7	2	5	8	6	
7	5	6	1	8	3	2	9	4	
2	8	9	6	5	4	3	1	7	
6	3	5	8	2	1	4	7	9	
8	9	7	4	3	5	6	2	1	
4	2	1	7	6	9	8	3	5	
9	1	8	2	4	6	7	5	3	
3	7	4	5	9	8	1	6	2	
5	6	2	3	1	7	9	4	8	

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Wonderword OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

YOGA THERAPY Solution: 10 letters														
Α	Н	Е	S	-1	С	R	Ε	Χ	Е	Α	G	L	Ε	T
Ν	Υ	S	R	0	Т	С	U	R	Т	S	Ν	-1	Н	Ε
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G	Α	Ε	(D)	1	0	R	Α	Α	L	С	Ν	-	Α	Ο
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Υ	S	S	Е	R	Т	S	Р	Н	-1	Ν	Χ	J	Ρ	K
@ 20	© 2018 Andrews MoMee I www.wonderword.com Rownload the Wonderword Game Appl 9/15													

Ancient, Ascetic, Balance, Boat, Camel, Chair, Child. Cobra, Corpse, Cow, Crane, Eagle, Exercise, Firefly, Firefog, Fish, Group, Hatha, Health, Hold, India, Instructor, Jainism, Krishnamacharya, Lotus, Marichi, Peacock, Plow, Posture, Practice, Pranayama, Raja, Scale, Sphinx, Sramana, Stress, Therapy, Tirumalai, Tree, Walk, Wheel, Yoga Yesterday's Answer: Horses

o purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, (Contains 100 puzzles,

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1 Commercial Cleaner, 1 General Maintenance - 3-5 years experience with valid driver's license. Police Clearance required. Email resume to San Vicente Estates at cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com

WHATZIT Solution: There's gold in them thar hills

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY&NIGHT

MACS MARINE JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Commercial Diver

- At least 3 years experience in Scuba Diving
- Knowledgeable in using diving apparatus
- Should know how to take appropriate safety precaution, and instruct Customers

(1) Maintenance Repairer

- At least 2 years experience
- Repair & Maintain Company Premises

Contact Person: Adonis Santos Contact No.: 323-2916

AM MACHINE SHOP & CAR AIRCONDITIONING

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Machinist

- At Least 3 years experience in
- Machining Job Fabricate & Modify parts Metal
- & Non Metal Can Operate Industrial
- Machines Like Lathe Machine. Milling Machine, Crankshaft **Grinding Machine**

(1) Car Aircon Technician

At Least 3 years experience in Car Airconditioning Service Install, Repair & Service Car Airconditioning System

Contact Person: Adonis Santos Contact No.: 323-2916

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School Is requesting applicants for:

(1) Teacher

- Must have a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts in Education
- Must have NAD Certification
- Will consider OPT
- Willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures
- · Willing to continue professional
- development within your teaching area
- · Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Send resumes to: Saipan SDA School Principal P.O. Box 501063 Saipan MP 96950 principal@saipansdaschool.org



Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

Is requesting applicants for:

(2) Child Development Center/ Pre-School Teachers

- Minimum two years experience working with young
- children in a school setting (18 months through 4 years of age) Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degree
- CPR/First Aid Certified
- · Knowledge of child development and curriculum
- · Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day
- Adventist Church Willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures

(1) Maintenance Supervisor

- Minimum two years of general maintenance experience and supervision
- Knowledge of plumbing, electrical, building construction, and general maintenance
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Send resumes to: Saipan SDA School Principal

P.O. Box 501063 Saipan MP 96950 principal@saipansdaschool.org

KING'S INC. DBA KING'S JEWELRY **JOB VACANCY ANNOUCEMENT**

• (1) GOLDSMITH/PRECIOUS METAL WORKER

MUST BE KNOWLEDGEABLE TO FABRICATE, DESIGN, REPAIR, SIZING, SETTING AND MOUNTING GEM STONE, INCLUDING DIAMOND AND METAL CARVING, HAWAIIAN STYLE.

(1) JEWELRY CASTING TECHNICIAN

TO MAKE MODELS OR MOLD TO CREATE JEWELRY, FABRICATE, REPAIR, SETTING, MOUNTING GEMSTONE, ETC.

Salary: \$7.05 - \$9.00 per Hour - Full Time Experience: Min. of 5 years in Gold Smith

Interested applicants may send their resume to King's Inc. P.O. Box 5050 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950 or pick up application form from our office at Paseo de Marianas next to Paris Croissant Bakery. Deadline for a submission is no later than 5:00pm on February 23, 2018.

MECHILLE CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUCEMENT

(1) ACCOUNTANT (1) INTERIOR DESIGNER/SALES (4) INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR WORKERS AND ALL

Interested applicants may send their resume to mechillecorporation@gmail.com or pick up application form at our Office at Kannat Tabla Dr. Monsignor Rd. across Café Mango Six. Deadline for submission is no later than 5:00pm on February 23, 2018

AUTO MARINE INCORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Accountant

- At least 3 years experience in Accounitne
- Literate in PeachTree Accounting
- Prepares Financial Statement
- Other Related Duties

(1) Customer Representative At least 2 years experience

- Can deal with the Tourist
- Received Reservations and Schedule of Boat

(1) Commercial Diver

- At least 3 years experience in
- Knowledgeable in using diving apparatus
- Should know how to take precaution, and instruct

(1) Mechanic

- At Least 3 years experience in **Engine Mechanic**
- Repair & Maintain Company Boat & Automobiles

(2) Maintenance Repairer

- At least 2 years experience
- Repair & Maintain Company Premises

Motor Boat Mechanic

- At Least 3 years experience in
- Engine Mechanic Overhauling Engine Equipment
- **Contact Person: Adonis Santos** Contact No.: 323-2916

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT WINCHELL'S DONUTS

1 vacancy for Store Manager. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level and has at least 1 year of continued experience in managing bakery operations; must have knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must be customer-service oriented, computer literate and confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

4 vacancies for Donut Makers/Bakers. Wage ranges from \$7.05/hr to \$8.00/hr. Must be a high school graduate with a few months to 1 year experience in baking; must be able to read, write and speak basic English; must be capable of lifting at least 50lbs and has basic mathematical skills. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese and other foreign languages is highly preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health with good moral character. Must be able to follow grooming standards; provide current police/court

clearance and health certificate. Must have reliable transportation and willing to undergo drug test.

> Please email your resume to jobapplicant2014@gmail.com

PACIFIC MARINE ENTERPRISES INC. **JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

- (2) Welder

 DUTIES: Fabricate and assemble metal structures and equipment through the use of welders, cutters, shapers and measuring tools. Welders produce metal products according to customer or employer specifications. They use multiple welding machines to repair and maintain metal equipment and structures of various sizes. Welders read and interpret diagrams, sketches and blueprints to determine operations, required materials and timeframes for projects. Set up, operate and maintain welding equipment. They understand and implement personal and company safety measures by wearing specialized goggles, believe and delayer.
- QUALIFICATIONS: Proven experience as welder, Experience using a variety of welding equipment and QUALITY ON TOWN: Type Incidence as Wender, Experience using a variety of wedning equipment and procedures (TIG, MMA etc.)Experience in using electrical or manual tools (saws, squares, calipiers etc.)Ability to read and interpret technical documents and drawings, Knowledge of relative safety standards and willingness to use protective clothing (face-shield, gloves tec.)Deftness and attention to detail

 * Successful completion of a relevant apprenticeship program is required,

 * Professional Certification (e.g. an AWS welding certificate)
- **HOURLY RATE:** Determined based on qualifications

(2) Metal Sheet Fabricator

Metal Sheet Fabricator

DUTIES: Fabricates and assembles structural metal products, such as framework or shells for machinery, ovens, tanks, stacks, and metal parts for buildings and bridges according to job order, verbal instructions, and blueprints: Develops layout and plans sequence of operations, applying knowledge of trigonometry, stock allowances for thickness, machine and welding shrinkage, and physical properties of metal. Locates and house the properties of metal bloades and well and properties of metal. Locates and control of the properties of the proper anowances for tunciness, indictine and wedning strinkage, and physical properties of inetal, Locates and marks bending and cutting lines onto work piece. Sets up and operates fabricating machines, such as brakes, rolls, shears, flame cutters, and drill presses. Designs and constructs templates and fixtures. Verifies conformance of work piece to specifications, using square, ruler, and measuring tape. May fabricate and assembles heet metal products. May set up and operate machine tools associated with fabricating shops, such as radial drill press, end mill, and edge planer.

- QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum of High school and/or Associate's degree.
- 3 5 related work experience and/or training, MUST be able to report to facility Mon-Fri 8AM 5PM,Able to work additional overtime hours and some weekends as needed
 HOURLY RATE: Determined based on qualifications

(3) Heavy Equipment Operators

- DUTIEs. Provide support to successful completion of construction and engineering work; Operate all heavy equipment like cranes, earth movers, buildozers, front-end loaders, and other related equipment. Operate the equipment in the right direction and angles to prevent accidents and damage of property. Ensure and manage the machines or equipment in a safe and secure way. Perform periodical safety, maintenance or servicing checks to ensure proper functioning of the equipment.

 * Perform minor repair works during functioning problems Inform and advise the management of repair management of the equipment of the equ
- repairmen for major repairs or maintenance Drive and control the equipment Perform road work,
- excavation work, lifting work, etc
- Respond to signals and directions by the staff and work in coordination with them Maintain proper coordination and cooperation with the road and transport system while driving/working, so that the normal activities are not disrupted.

 Operate the equipment manually and also through the use of electronic or technical methods of operation. Work in adherence to safe practices, procedures, and work site or traffic laws. Report to the senior operation manager Perform other duties, as and when assigned.
- QUALIFICATIONS: 3 7 years work experience, MUST be able to pass a drug and background screen.

 MUST be able to report to facility Mon-Fri 8AM 5PM, Able to work additional overtime hours and some
- weekends as needed HOURLY RATE: Determined based on qualifications

(3) Painter, General Maintenance and Repair Workers

DUTIES: Participates in general cleaning, painting, and repair work. Uses hand tools and power tools in making minor maintenance repairs and maintaining grounds and walks. Assists in shipping and receiving of supplies and materials. Provides assistance to staff, visitors, and other employees as necessary. Checks building at beginning and end of shifts.

Additional Duties

- Receives oral or written orders from Head Custodian and Head of Building Services. Performs work according to standard procedure and by building's operational schedule. Cleans rooms, hallways, restrooms, offices, stairways and windows. Uses brooms, mops, and floor equipment to sweep, mop, strip and wax floors. Uses vacuum cleaners to clean rugs, carpets, upholstered furniture and blinds. Dusts furniture and equipment. Washes walls, ceilings, woodwork, windows, doors and sills. Makes minor carpentry, electrical, mechanical and plumbing repairs. Performs touch up and finish painting. Empties wastebaskets. Replenishes restroom supplies. Replaces light bulbs. Sets up and tears down chairs, tables and equipment in meeting rooms, and function rooms. Opens and closes building according to security procedures. Reports work accomplished orally or on written work order to supervisor.
- QUALIFICATIONS: 3 7 years work experience, MUST be able to pass a drug and background screen. MUST
 be able to report to facility Mon-Fri 8AM 5PM,Able to work additional overtime hours and some weekends
- HOURLY RATE: Determined based on qualifications.

(3) Auto Motive Diesel Mechanic

-) Auto Motive Diesel Mechanic

 DUTIES: Start motors and monitor performance for signs of malfunctioning, such as smoke, excessive vibration, or misfiring. Observe equipment in operation to detect potential problems. Document inspection and test results and work performed or to be performed. Document test results. Mount motors to boats and operate boats at various speeds on waterways to conduct operational tests. Position equipment using hand tools, power tools, or heavy equipment. Mount motors to boats and operate boats at various speeds on waterways to conduct operational tests. Conduct operational tests. Position equipment using hand tools, power tools, or heavy equipment. Perform routine engine maintenance on motorboats, such as changing oil and filters Service vehicles to maintain functionality. Inspect and repair or adjust propellers or propeller shafts.

 - Inspect mechanical components of vehicles to identify problems.

 Repair defective engines or engine components.

 Read and interpret diagnostic test results from diagnostic equipment such as an oscilloscope, which is used to measure the voltage produced by electronic components Test drive vehicles to diagnose malfunctions
- Read and interpret diagnostic test results from diagnostic equipment such as an oscilloscope, which
- is used to measure the voltage produced by electronic components
 Raise trucks, buses, and heavy parts or equipment by using hydraulic jacks or hoists
 Inspect brake systems, steering mechanisms, transmissions, engines, and other parts of vehicles
 Do routine maintenance, such as changing oil, checking batteries, and lubricating equipment and parts
- Adjust and align wheels, tighten bolts and screws, and attach system components Repair or replace malfunctioning components, parts, and other mechanical or electrical equipment
- Test-drive vehicles to ensure that they run smoothly QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum of High school and/or Associate's degree.

 3 – 5 related work experience and/or training, MUST be able to report to facility Mon-Fri 8AM – 5PM, Able

Applicants must be able to work on flexible hours with valid driver's license

work additional overtime hours and some weekends as needed HOURLY RATE: Determined based on qualifications

> Please email resume to pme@pticom.com or Mail resume at Pacific Marine Enterprises Inc. PMB 181 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950 no later than February 25, 2018

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	(PRINT)	(PRINT AND ONLINE)			
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30			
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45			

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publica-

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

Ohtani reports to Angels with swings and long toss



TEMPE, Ariz. (AP)— Shohei Ohtani

came onto the field with a bat in his hand after taking some swings in the cage, on his way to throw some long toss with his full-time interpreter.

That was after the two-way standout from Japan had already taken a physical and unloaded some gear into his locker in the Los Angeles Angels clubhouse.

While Ohtani had already been working out at the team's Arizona complex for a week, Tuesday was the reporting day for Angels pitchers and catchers. The main attraction was Ohtani, who is already busy in his first major league spring training.

"Shohei is going to have a little longer day than most of our pitchers," manager Mike Scioscia said. "But it shouldn't be anything that he hasn't done before, and he'll be ready to go."

The 23-year-old Ohtani may be used to such a routine after five seasons playing professionally in Japan, but things are already much different for the Angels at spring training.

Scioscia conducted his camp-opening media availability by speaking into a microphone alongside another interpreter recently hired by the team as reporters - including about 70 from Japan - sat in several rows of two sections of stands down the right field line at Diablo Stadium.

That crowd is expected to be much larger Wednesday, when Ohtani is scheduled to talk after the team's first official workout.

Just moments after Scioscia was asked a question about



Ohtani's physical, the player entered the field from a gate in the right-field corner, not far from where Scioscia stood.

"I guess his physical's OK. He's here," Scioscia said after calling out to Ohtani and briefly greeting his new starting pitcher—and hitter too.

The Angels knew Ohtani was recovering from a sprained elbow before they agreed to a contract with the two-way player two months ago. He missed much of last season in Japan with an ankle injury.

'We don't anticipate any issues," Scioscia said. "He's been throwing and hitting, and he's in great shape."

Scioscia said he had only seen video of Ohtani's workouts, but also got reports from staff members about how the pitcher-hitter was doing.

Some of his new teammates who were also in camp early, and have been on the field with him, are impressed.

"Seeing him getting acclimated, it's been great. Just talking, hanging out, getting to know each other," starting pitcher Matt Shoemaker said. "He's phenomenal. You see him throw a bullpen, you know how hard he can throw, and see his effortless swing and what the ball does off his bat is crazy. Yeah, it's exciting.'

Tyler Skaggs said two of his bullpen sessions have been at the same time as Ohtani's.

"I haven't really got to see it with my own eyes yet," Skaggs said of Ohtani's pitching. "I saw him play catch, and I saw him hitting batting practice, which was impressive."

Long before Ohtani was in the clubhouse or on the field Tuesday, dozens of Japanese reporters waited near the entrance to the players' parking lot waiting for the pitcher to arrive.

After his physical at a different location, like for all players, Ohtani got to the clubhouse about 30 minutes before the end of a two-hour block open to the media. He unpacked Angels shirts, caps and other gear from two boxes on the floor into his locker next to pitcher Jose Alvarez.

While not getting overly specific about the team's plans, Scioscia said Ohtani will be available to hit in between starts—and even on days he's starting on the mound in National League parks.

"He's going to get probably most looks as a pitcher," Scioscia said. "He's probably going to influence our team more as a pitcher, but that's not to say he's not going to have a chance to be a difference-maker on the offensive end too."

Asked if he knew any Japanese, Scioscia said he's sure he'll pick some up but that "a lot of baseball's universal."

Catcher Martin Maldonado, excited about what he's seen on video before catching for Ohtani, knows at least one important phrase - "Ogenkidesuka," or "How are you?"

One obvious answer for Ohtani will be "busy" with camp kicking into gear.

"You can't miss any steps. He's definitely going to have to go through all the fundamentals we do as a pitchers. He's going to have to throw his quality bullpens to prep himself for getting into games in spring training," Scioscia said. "And also be able to run the bases and hit from the of-

Woods playing dual role of player and mentor



ANGE-(AP)—Tiger Woods flew to California with Justin Thomas on

his plane and had reason to feel older when they landed.

Thomas, the reigning PGA Tour player of the year, is among several players who were getting seriously hooked on golf about the time Woods winning tournaments at a rate never seen. He had vague recollections of Woods making his PGA Tour debut at Riviera as an amateur and asked for details.

It was 1992. Woods was 16. That was a full year before Thomas was even born.

"I'm sorry, but that really put things in perspective really fast," Woods said Tuesday at the Genesis Open.

This is the new world for Woods even as he tries to bring back his old brand of golf.

In his first PGA Tour event after recovering from his fourth back surgery, Woods tied for 23rd on a tough test at Torrey Pines. His play has improved. The bigger difference is Woods appears more content with his place in life. And with golf getting younger and better by the year, the biggest change might be how Woods is perceived.

Is he more of a mentor? Elder statesman?

"Idol?" Thomas suggested.

"I still look at him as what I looked at growing up. It's just now I can beat him," Thomas said with a laugh, surely a leftover barb from their flight to Los Angeles. "Now I'm playing against him and trying to beat him, instead of watching on TV and rooting for him."

Woods has not won since his five-victory season in 2013, and it was probably longer than that since he had an aura of being unbeatable. He has played only 21 times since the first of his four back surgeries a week before the 2014 Masters.

He was here, and he was gone, and then back again, but never for very long.

During that time away, when even Woods wasn't sure about his future in golf, he became more accessible to players. He was texting them at the Presidents Cup in South Korea in 2015. He was in their ears as an assistant captain the last two years at the Ryder Cup and Presidents Cup.

Jason Day, during his rise to No. 1 in the world, could barely make it through a press conference without mentioning a phone call or a text message with Woods to seek out advice. In the weeks leading up to his most recent return in the Bahamas, Woods played with Thomas, Rickie Fowler, Daniel Berger and Dustin Johnson.

This is not the same guy who once didn't even acknowledge his mother walking to the first tee at the Masters.

Maybe that will change.

Perhaps it will take winning, though Woods clearly has tempered his expectations this early in his comeback.

"I think now they're starting to see me as a competitor because I'm starting to come back again," he said. "For a while there, that wasn't the case. I'm just a person that they could bounce ideas off of -- what did I used to do and how do I feel these things, what do I do in certain situations, certain shots. And they would pick my brain. But now it's more of a playing competitor now. Yeah, we still give the needle and we still have a whole bunch of fun. But they know I'm playing in a tournament, and so are they.

Chiefs' career tackles leader Johnson to become free agent



KANSAS CITY (AP)— Derrick Johnson's tenure with the Chiefs

is coming to an end.

The franchise's career tackles leader and a four-time Pro Bowl selection, Johnson will become a free agent when his contract expires at the start of the new league year March 14. He intends to keep playing, it just won't be in the familiar red, yellow and white of the Chiefs.

"I love Kansas City and this fan base. They've always had my back," Johnson said in a statement put out by the Chiefs, who made the rare decision to announce publicly that Johnson would not be returning.

That in itself speaks volumes to how much Johnson has meant to the organization.

"I'm grateful I had the opportunity to spend 13 years in a place I love," he said. "I plan on playing for several more years because I love the game so much, but I look forward to retiring as a member of the Kansas City Chiefs when my career is over."

Johnson was the Chiefs' first-round pick in 2005, though his career got off to a rocky start. At one point early on, he found himself riding the bench, and was even labeled a bust.

But Johnson eventually earned his starting job back, and went on to appear in 182 games with 169 starts. He piled up 1,262 tackles to easily shatter the franchise record, had 27+ sacks and picked off 14 passes, returning four of them for touchdowns.

He had a career-best 179 tackles in 2011, when he was voted the Chiefs' team MVP.

"Few players in recent history have meant more to the Chiefs franchise and the Kansas City community than Derrick Johnson" Chiefs chairman Clark Hunt said.

"His tireless work ethic and passion for the game made him one of the most productive defensive players to ever wear a Chiefs uniform and one of the most respected players both in our locker room and around the league.

"Over the last 13 seasons, Derrick represented himself and the Chiefs organization with integrity and class, and he will always be a part of our Chiefs family."

LeBron scores 37, Cavs avenge loss to Thunder

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)-LeBron James and his new teammates are playing like old buddies.

James 37 points, and the new-look Cleveland Cavaliers got a much different result this time against the Oklahoma City Thunder in a 120-112 victory on Tuesday night.

Cleveland claimed its second straight win since adding George Hill, Rodney Hood, Jordan Clarkson and Larry Nance Jr. in trades, and their fourth straight victory overall. The Cavaliers lost to the Thunder 148-124 on Jan. 20 with a very different roster.

"It's a change of scenery and they're just trying to take advantage of it," James said. "For the guys that were here, we're just trying to make them as comfortable as possible. Make the transition as seamless as possible."

Thunder coach Billy Donovan said the changes create a lot of problems.

"I think their ability to space it, drive it, kick it, their skill level, I think -- not that it was bad before, but I think the speed, probably the tempo and the pace they are playing at is a little bit faster," he said.

Each of Cleveland's additions made solid contributions against Oklahoma City. Hill started at point guard and went 24 minutes without a turnover. Hood and Clarkson each scored 14 points and Nance had 13 points and nine rebounds, including eight offensive boards.

James praised Cleveland general manager Koby Altman for getting what the team needed at the trade deadline.

"It just wasn't working out for us. He made the changes he felt best fit our team," James said. "Then, it's on me to make sure the new guys that come in, that they fit in and make it as seamless as possible. That's my job. This is the third game in a row my voice is gone. So I am just trying to have communication at an alltime high for us."

Holdover guard J.R. Smith added 18 points for the Cavaliers. It was Cleveland's second straight road win against top competition—the Cavaliers rolled past Boston 121-99 on Sunday.

"We've got to keep working," Cleveland coach Tyronn Lue said. "It's a process. You've got to keep playing well, keep getting better and hit that stride late.'

Paul George scored 25 points and Carmelo Anthony 24 for the Thunder. Steven Adams added 22 points and 17 rebounds, and Russell



Westbrook scored 21 points. Westbrook and Anthony had missed the past two games with sprained ankles.

Westbrook had 12 assists and seven rebounds, but he made just 7 of 19 shots.

"This guy has been an ironman for so long, but when you miss two games and practices and you have one day to get back, there could have been, for him, trying to work his way back in to where he was," Donovan said. "He's never going to make an excuse about his ankle or how he feels or anything else. He gave everything, as he always does, to try to win."

James scored 14 points in the first five minutes of the third quarter, including two 3-pointers, to give Cleveland a 78-68 lead. He was 6 for 6 from the field during that stretch.

Rockets 126, **Timberwolves 108**

In Minneapolis, James Harden had 34 points, 12 assists and six rebounds, and Houston beat Minnesota for its ninth straight victory.

Ryan Anderson scored 21 points off the bench as the Rockets (43-13) snapped Minnesota's 13-game home winning streak and pulled within a half-game of the Golden State Warriors for the best record in the NBA. Houston has won for the 16 of its last 18 games.

The Rockets made 10 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, when they scored 42 points.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 35 points and 12 rebounds in Minnesota's first home loss since Dec. 16 against Phoenix. Jeff Teague added 25 points and eight assists, and Jamal Crawford came off the bench to score 11 points after starting 0 for 6 from the floor.

Raptors 115, Heat 112

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 27 points, Kyle Lowry had 22 and Toronto beat Miami for its sixth straight win.

Toronto (40-16) improved its NBA-best home record to 24-4 and ensured it will be the top team in the Eastern Conference at the All-Star break.

Serge Ibaka had 14 points and 10 rebounds for the

Raptors, who also won six straight between Nov. 25 and Dec. 10 and again between Dec. 13 and 23.

C.J. Miles added 11 points, but the Raptors failed to extend its franchise-record fivegame streak of winning by 15 or more points.

Goran Dragic scored 28 points and James Johnson had 16 for the Heat, who lost for the sixth time in seven games. Dwyane Wade had 10 points and 11 rebounds, and Hassan Whiteside collected 10 points and 10 boards.

Bucks 97, Hawks 92

In Atlanta, Khris Middleton had 21 points to lead a balanced attack for Milwaukee, and All-Star forward Giannis Antetokounmpo hit two key buckets in the final threeplus minutes.

Tyler Zeller added 14 points on 7-of-9 shooting in his first game in Milwaukee since joining the team on the road before the trade deadline last week. The Bucks improved to 9-2 since Joe Prunty took over as interim coach following the firing of Jason Kidd, getting back in the race for a top-four playoff seed in the East.

Dennis Schroder scored 18 points for the Hawks, and Ersan Ilyasova had nine of his 15 points in the fourth quarter. Ilyasova spearheaded a late rally in which Atlanta erased a 12-point deficit and tied it at 84 on Kent Bazemore's 3-pointer with 3:30 left.

Oklahoma City Thunder center Steven Adams, left, knocks the ball away from Cleveland Cavaliers guard George Hill, center, as Hill shoots in front of forward Paul George (13) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018.

Spurs 117. Nuggets 109

In Denver, Nikola Jokic had 23 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists, Will Barton scored 20 points and the Denver Nuggets beat the struggling San Antonio Spurs 117-109 on Tuesday night.

Jokic notched his fourth triple-double of the season to lead the Nuggets to their fifth win in six games. Denver outscored the Spurs 30-19 in the fourth quarter to rally from seven down late in the third.

Joffrey Lauvergne scored a career-high 26 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, and Tony Parker had 17 points for San Antonio. The Spurs have lost five of six heading into their All-Star break.

San Antonio was again without two of its top players in Kawhi Leonard and La-Marcus Aldridge. Leonard has missed all but nine games and Aldridge sat for the second straight night to rest his sore right knee

Kings 114, Mavericks 109

In Dallas, Zach Randolph scored 22 points, and Sacramento used a big first half to beat Dallas.

Bogdan Bogdanovich added 19 points for the Kings, who have won four of five in Dallas after losing 22 in a row here from 2003 to 2016. Seven Kings scored in double figures.

J.J. Barea led the Mavericks with 19 points, and Harrison Barnes and Dwight Powell each scored 18

Federer quietly hoping for dream return to No. 1

ROTTERDAM—Roger match," said Federer, Federer said on Monday he could allow himself to 20th Grand Slam title dream about recapturing the at the Australian Open. world number one spot at this "I'm hoping to get to week's Rotterdam tournament and becoming the oldest man ever to hold the position.

To climb back to the top at the age of 36, the Swiss must at least reach the semi-finals.

If seedings hold up, that means he would have to defeat compatriot and friend Stan Wawrinka in what would be a high-profile quarterfinal.

"I would love to be in that position with anyone, but with Stan it would be like a Grand Slam final, a big-time fresh from winning a number one and hoping to do it this week. You

always want to do it the tough way, it's not easy to get there. The achievement would be quite incredible. It's exciting to see Stan in my section and it's great to have him back (after knee surgery in July)."

Federer made a relatively late decision to play at the event, which he won in 2005 and 2012.

He said that after winning in Melbourne a fortnight ago, he

felt good enough to compete this week and is also considering play-

"I didn't expect to win Australia, I played it not thinking about number one," he said. "I didn't think of the rankings at all in Melbourne. Afterwards, I thought I could always play Rotterdam, I'd love to play, give it a go and see what happens. I'm happy I'm here, healthy and eager to play."

He starts his bid on Wednesday against Belgian Ruben Bemelmans.

Federer also gave some insight into his plans for the spring claycourt season, which ing in Dubai in two he skipped completely last year on the way to winning his eighth Wimbledon title.

"The clay season is up in the air. If I'm playing a lot during this part of the season, it would be hard to play a robust clay season. It would be light (schedule) if I do play. We'll see how it goes. I'm healthy and glad to be playing. I should be playing when I feel that way and not play when I don't feel at 100 percent or don't feel ready to do it. That's the secret for me moving forward," he said.

'Crank' lends BJJ expertise to TrenchTech students

REPORTER

Frank "The Crank" Camacho is on island and held a special session on Brazilian Jiu-jitsu for 24 students at the TrenchTech Purebred Saipan Academy last Tuesday night.

TrenchTech Gym owner Cuki Alvarez said he and the other students were honored and privileged to learn from a veteran mixed martial arts and UFC fighter like Camacho.

"All of us, young and old, were treated to some advance but basic techniques. We also learned some reversals and sweeps from certain positions followed by some cool submission techniques," said Alvarez.

"We had the privilege and honor to learn from a UFC fighter. He found the time to share his MMA knowledge to



Frank "The Crank" Camacho gives instructions to TrenchTech Gym students during a Brazilian Jiu-jitsu session last Tuesday. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

those who are interested practitioners of BJJ," added Alvarez, who was in Camacho's corner in two of his three UFC fights.

Camacho traces his roots at TrenchTech with Alvarez and coach Tetsuji Kato introducing him to BJJ and the world of MMA. He holds a 21-6 fight

record, 1-2 in UFC, with 15 of his wins by way of knockout. He lost his latest UFC fight against Drew Dober (19-8, 4 KOs) in UFC on FOX 27: Jac-



Frank "The Crank" Camacho poses with TrenchTech Gym students after their Brazilian Jiu-jitsu session last Tuesday. сонтявитер рното

DOVE

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"We are very thankful to have the continued support of Dove to our women's soccer program. Dove's message resonates with all of us and that is beauty comes in different shapes, sizes, ages, and stages," Coleman said.

Dove has been the CNMI women's program's partner since 2015 and has played a

crucial role in the growth and popularity of the sports among women—youth and adults alike.

"We are so blessed to have Dove as a supporter not only of the sport, but also in the development of women in a very positive way," said Coleman, who plays in various women's soccer competitions on island and also coaches teams.

For his part, Kretzers said supporting the women's league is a perfect fit for Dove.

"We can't find better reason to share the brand's money but to the sport and the program that everyone can benefit from. This is just right, we have a quality brand that works with a quality program," Kretzers said.

Some members of the CNMI women's national team training pool were also present at the donation turnover ceremony and expressed their appreciation to Dove.

"On behalf of the CNMI

female players, we would like to thank Dove for their endless generosity. Having sponsors like them inspire us players to work hard every training day and game and encourage us to stay in the program because we know that we always have their support and they are looking after our development," Mia Carreon said.

Meanwhile, the spring season of the Dove Women's League will kick off next month.

Earlier at the top of the third, the Blue Javs scored seven runs and had one hit,

as the Outlaws got sloppy on defense. The Outlaws also had five errors, while pitcher Dennis Cabrera threw two wild pitches, allowing Blue Jays runners to advance.

Cris George's triple was the lone hit for the Blue Jays as he drove in Tom Agulto, Kimo Aingalen, and Quimson Blas. Kier Agda also had a triple at the top of the seventh and later scored on a Sibetang single.

resumes today after taking a break last night with GSM battling the Ballistics. Then on Friday, the Mariners will debut against newcomer Titanium. Both games will start 6:30pm.

are vs Brunson held last Jan. 27 at the Spectrum Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, two months after earning a historic win against Damien Brown of Australia (17-12, 3 KOs).

Camacho will be on Saipan for a week to also talk to Hopwood Middle School students in a special conference at the

Saipan World Resort. After his stay here, he will return to Guam to begin training camp and prepare for a fourth UFC fight this summer.

For more information on how to learn BJJ, kickboxing, and wrestling and join the classes at TrenchTech, log on to www.trenchtech.tv regarding class schedules and pricing.

MGA Ace of Aces on Saturday

The Marianas Golf Association will be holding the final day of its 2017 Ace of Aces tournament on Saturday with partici-

pants taking on the challenging east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Show time is at 11am, while tee time is set one hour later.

The winner of the tournament will also be declared as the MGA's January Ace of the Month.

Don Hallmark earned the final spot on the MGA's yearend tournament as he clinched the December Ace last month at Laolao's west course. He finished with a net 69 for a one-shot win over August Ace Ned Norita. MGA president J.J. Atalig, the April winner, was third with a 72.

Peter "Dung" Tenorio

(January), Joe "Kamikaze" Camacho (February), Jessica Sonoda (March), Gerald Guerrero (May), Calvin Yamagishi (June), Jason

Sablan (July), Rob Davis (September), James Benavente (October), and Marco Peter (November) are the others players who qualified for the MGA's Ace of Aces tournament.

Meanwhile, Geri Dela Cruz (secretary), Benavente (treasurer), and Yamagishi (tournament director) join Atalig and vice president David Largent on the list of MGA's current officers.

For more information, call Yamagishi at 287-8894 or MarianasGolf670@ gmail.com or visit MGA's Facebook page at http://www. facebook.com/MarianasGolfAssociation. (Jon Perez)

BETDE

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Betde led at the start of the second frame, 4-2, after Kaithlyn Chavez, Wataru Kadokura, Julie Capayas, and Roque delivered one goal apiece in the first half. Marvus Toves made the pair of goals for Tinsel Toe in the first 20 minutes of the match and added two more in the early part of the second half to force the deadlock, 4-4.

Roque then knocked in his second goal with about seven minutes left in the match to bring the lead back to Betde. Toves attempted several times to tie the game, but was repeatedly frustrated by Betde goalie Mark Chavez. After Toves missed for the nth time with a little over 30 minutes left in the exciting match, Roque nailed the dagger to hand Betde the tough victory.

Meanwhile, in other results last Tuesday, Bruv and Betde United notched easy victories.

In the co-ed U15 division, Betde United topped Marianas United, 10-3.

Taka Borja registered four goals for Betde United, while Jerick Quimzon and Brandon Tenorio added two each, and Kohtaro Goto and Jenny Ann Capayas chipped in one apiece. Betde United is done with the elimination round

and ended up with a secondbest 4-0-2 record in the division behind the unbeaten Fake Madrid (5-0-0). Fake Madrid will play its last game before the playoffs tonight against CNMI United (2-0-3), which will challenge Betde United in next week's semis game.

Marianas United, which drew two goals from Dylan Mister and one from John Mark Anastacio, will meet Fake Madrid in the other Final Four pairing.

In the co-ed U18 division, Bruv earned a perfect mark (5-0-0) after defeating ABCD FC, 9-3.

Gillian Villagomez, Mareko Tekopua, and Alan Hinson tallied two goals apiece for Bruy, which got one goal each from Guine Borja, Eun Syu Hahn, and John Michael Rojas.

Krizel Tuazon, Clayton Izuka, and Kirt Andon scored for ABCD FC, which finished the elimination with a 2-1-2 record and has to wait for the results of tonight's game between CTSI Petmalu (1-2-1) and La Fabrica (1-0-3) to determine its semis foe. If CTSI Petmalu wins, it will be Bruv versus ABCD FC in the semis and the former will be paired against Suplex City (3-1-1). A CTSI Petmalu loss will have the team battling Bruv in the Final Four game.

CABRERA

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gle at the bottom of the fifth. Verlance Secharmidal and Mario Salas then each made a single, while the Outlaws' two runs—both earned—were courtesy of Dave Matagolai, who scored on a Noel Cabrera throwing error at the bottom of the third, and Salas' miscue in the seventh.

Noel Cabrera complemented his impressive performance on the mound by posting only two errors and one walk. He hit Joe Kapileo by a pitch in the seventh where the Outlaws tried to remain in contention

after falling behind by more than 10 runs. Noel Cabrera also had eight strikeouts and on three occasions had quick 1-2-3 innings with the help of the Blue Jays defense, before Outlaws second baseman Vince Cabrera foiled what could have been a no-hitter for the former Taalabwogh Falcons' standout.

Salas, with the Outlaws needing to score three runs at the bottom of the seventh in order to continue the game, led off the inning with a single and moved to second on a passed ball then scored on a Noel Cabrera throwing error for their team's second run.

But that was it for the Outlaws, as Noel Cabrera settled down after that. Vince Cabrera, who got on third base, was left stranded. The Blue Javs' Cabrera forced Olympio Muna to ground out to second, which was the final half of a game-ending double play. Blue Jays second baseman Jess Mesa grabbed Muna's grounder and quickly stepped on the bag to put out Kapileo, who was running towards second. Mesa then threw to Larry Sibetang at first to beat Muna and end the game.

Meanwhile, the new season

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018 27

CNM Men's National Basketball Team Tryout

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Mariana Islands Basketball Federation development officer Elias Rangamar, right, gives instructions to players before starting the drills during the first tryout for the CNMI men's national basketball team last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



C.J. Rogolifoi, left, attempts a jump shot in one of the drills.



Chris Sacdalan stops to attempt a shot, while the other candidates look on.



Travis Malwelbug, left, pulls up for a long shot.



Gino Libow prepares to drive to the basket during one of the drills they performed at the tryout.



Elias Rangamar, left, watches as one of the candidates drives to the basket.



Xavier Okaruru shows his dribbling skills.



Preston Basa, left, dribbles as he drives towards the basket, while other players wait for their turn



Saipan Tribune SDOITS

LeBron scores 37, Cavs avenge loss to Thunder

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Cabrera pitches Blue Jays to victory



Betde tops elimination

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

Betde finished first in the elimination round of the co-ed U12 division of Saipan Soccer School's 2018 Youth Futsal Tournament after surviving Tinsel Toes, 6-4, last Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

Betde wrapped up the double-round robin elimination with a 4-1-1 win-draw-loss record to rank No. 1 in the fourteam field. Tinsel Toes got a 3-1-2 record and must wait for the results of the game between CTSI Petmalu (2-1-2)

and Kanoa Ali'i (0-1-4) to determine its rankings. However, regardless of the rankings,

the playoffs pairing are already set with Betde meeting Kanoa Ali'i on Feb. 20 for the first finals berth and Tinsel Toes battling CTSI Petmalu in the other semis match on Feb. 22.

Mark Roque helped Betde secure the top spot in the team standings as he scored a hat trick with two of his goals saving the day for the team after Tinsel Toes threatened a comeback in the second half.

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A Betde United player, right, dribbles past a Tinsel Toes defender during the second half of their co-ed U12 division game in Saipan Soccer School's 2018 Youth Futsal Tournament last Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

By JON PEREZ

oel Cabrera showed no signs of rookie jitters and the Blue Jays scored seven runs in the third inning to cage the Outlaws, 13-2, in Day 2 of opening week of the 2018 Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" M. Palacios Ballfield.



The 17-yearold Cabrera, a former member of the CNMI Junior League

All-Star Team, was unhittable in four complete innings before Vince Cabrera broke his streak with a leadoff sin-

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Dove extends support to women's soccer program

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com



Dove mains committed to the

development of women's soccer in the CNMI as it extended its sponsorship to the program.

D&Q Saipan resident manager Max Kretzers and regional sales manager Marilyn Marron presented the \$10,000 check to Northern Mariana Islands Football Association Executive Committee member and Women's Committee chair Patricia Coleman to reiterate Dove's support to the women's league named after the beauty products brand and other activities under the CNMI women's soccer program. D&Q Saipan is the distributor of Dove and other Unilever products on the islands.

NMIFA president Jerry

coach Luam Khen Koo, and other officials of the federa-

women's national team tion and NMIFA Women's Committee witnessed the donation turnover ceremony

held yesterday at the NMIFA office in Garapan.

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D&Q Saipan resident manager Max Kretzers, standing fifth left, hands over the ceremonial check to NMIFA Executive Committee member and NMIFA Women's Committee chair Patricia Coleman, standing fourth left, in support of the CNMI women's soccer program. Also present at the donation turnover ceremony yesterday at the NMIFA Office are NMIFA president Jerry Tan, standing left, Tan, NMIFA technical direc- CNMI women's players, NMIFA coaches and officials, and D&Q Saipan regional sales manager tor Michiteru Mita, CNMI Marilyn Marron, standing third left.